Oh My Goddess!
ああっ女神さまっ
3
藤島康介
KOSUKE FUJISHIMA

Oh My Goddess! 3

ああっ女神さまっ

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DARK HORSE MANGA™

CHAPTER 17
Turkey with All the Trimmings.....3

CHAPTER 18
Life's Just a Game of Sugoroku Roulette.....27

CHAPTER 19
Upon Close Examination.....49

CHAPTER 20
Belldandy in Danger.....71

CHAPTER 21
Exposing a Secret.....98

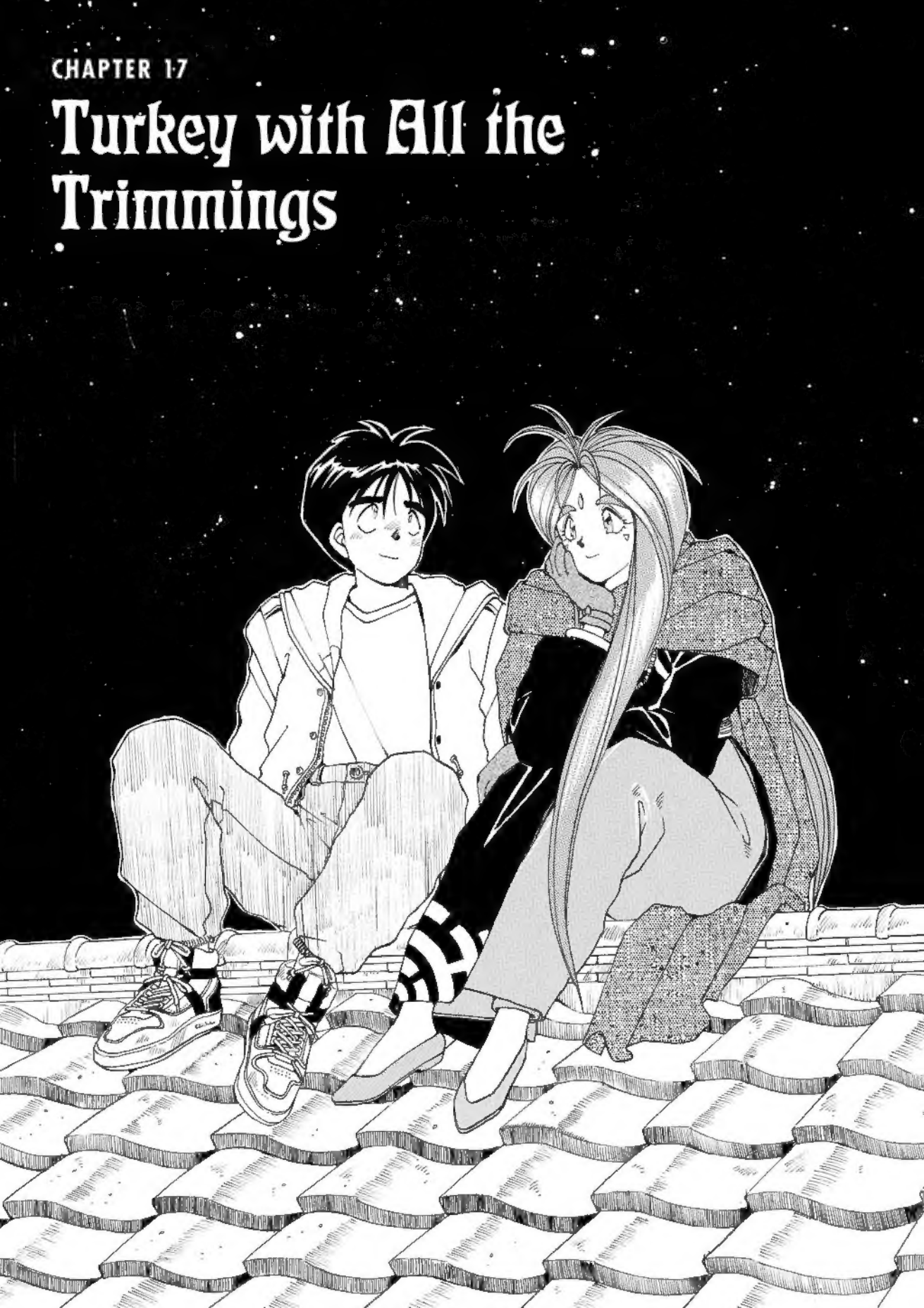
CHAPTER 22
Who Will Win the Champion Flag?.....127

CHAPTER 23
What a Miracle.....151

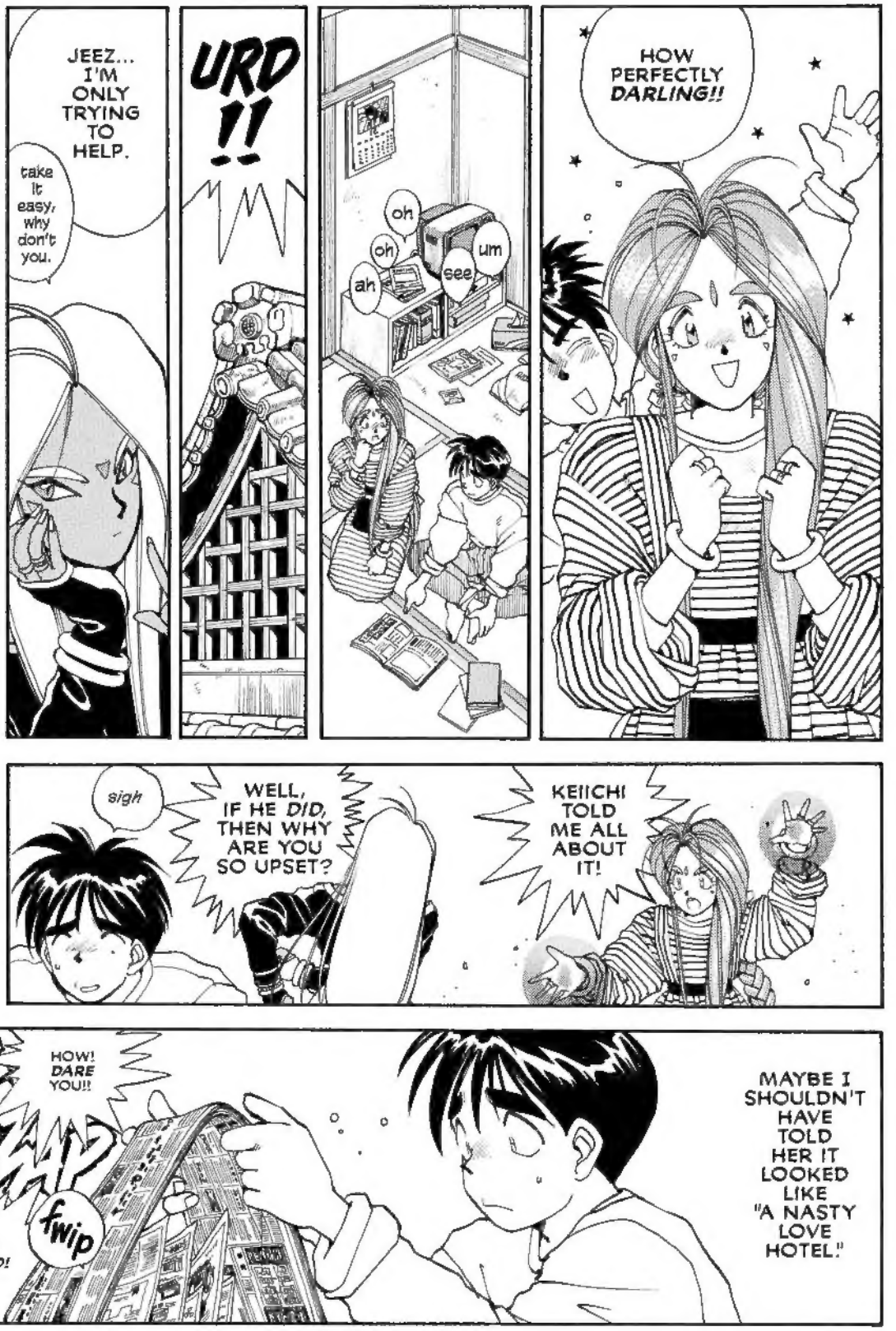
Letters to the Enchantress....182

CHAPTER 17

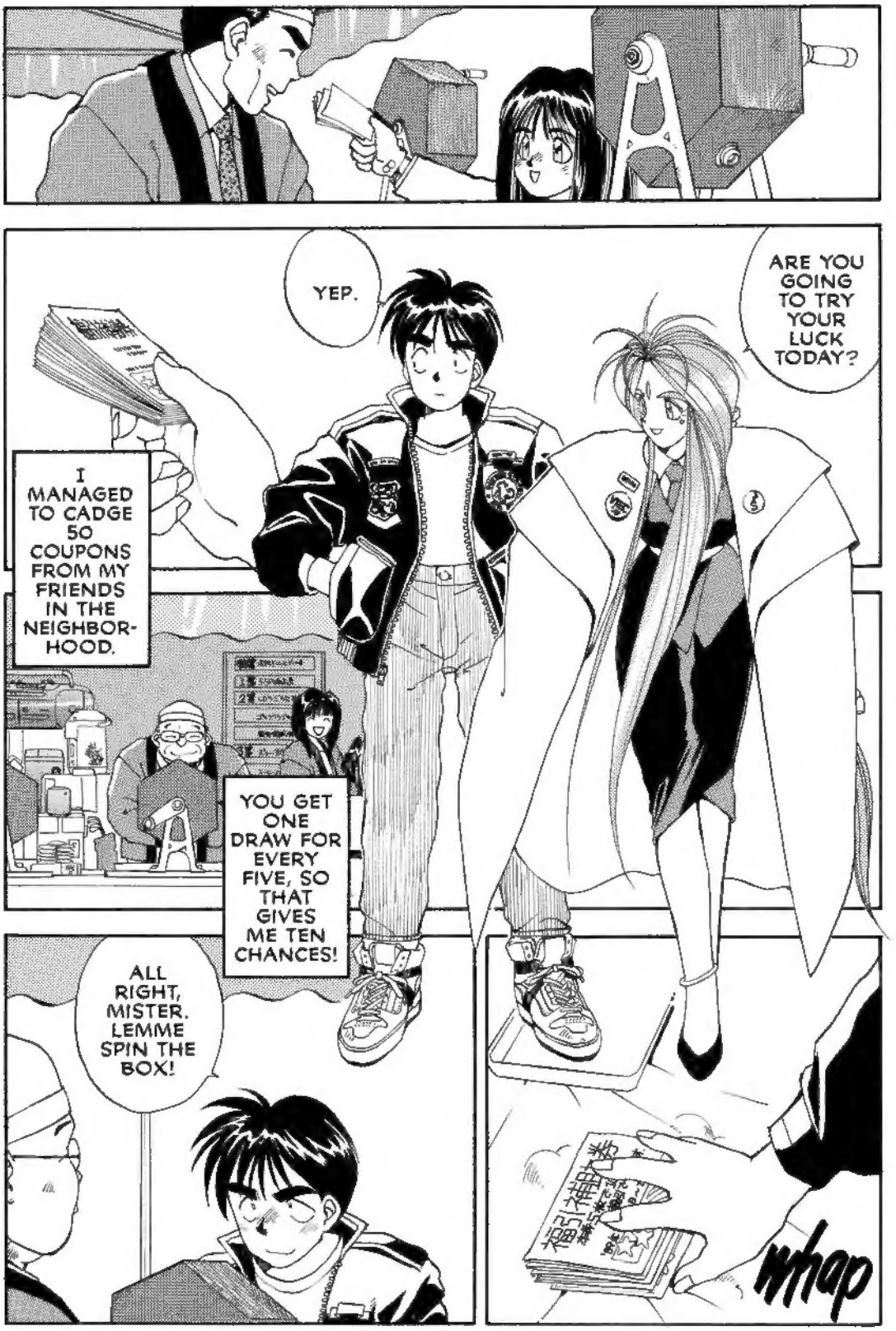
Turkey with All the Trimmings



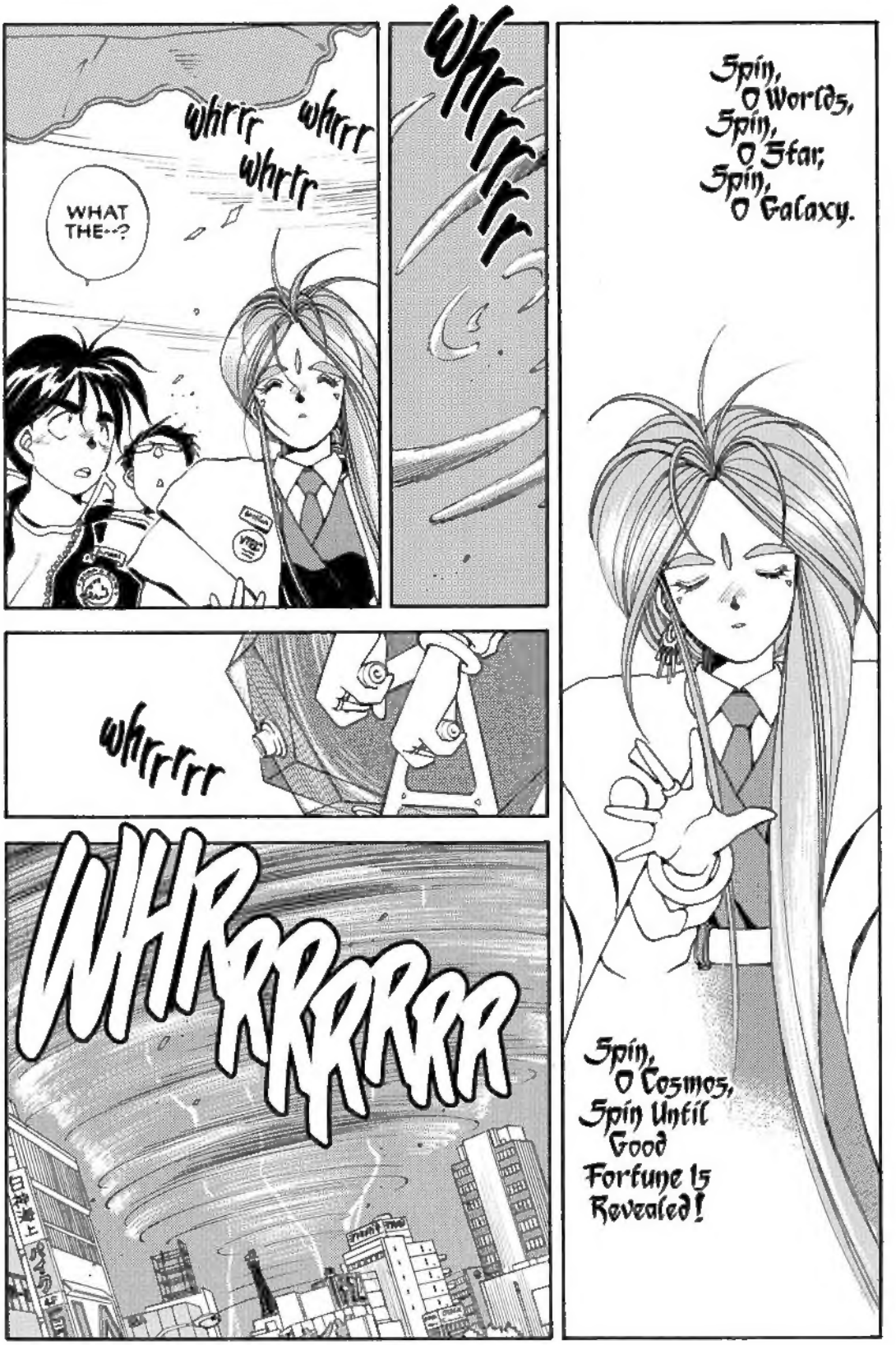
WHAT'D YOU DO TO MY ROOM?
HEY, URD! WAIT!
WELL, FINE! I'LL CHANGE IT WHEN I GET BACK!
WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM? YOU DON'T LIKE MY TASTE?
WHAT DID SHE DO, KEIICHI?
GOOD GOD(DESS).
gasp!
blurp
blurp
uuuuuuuu

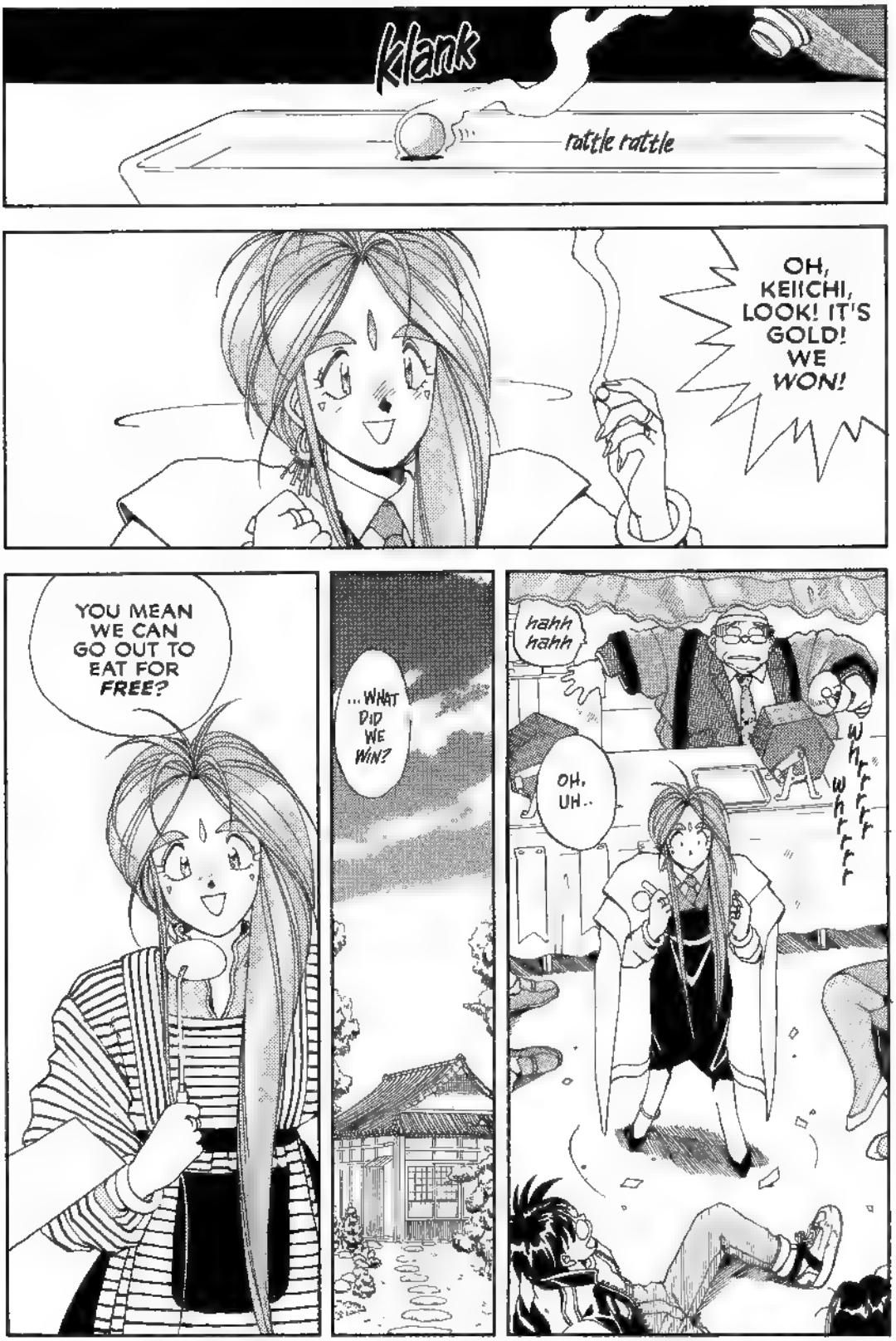

JEEZ... I'M ONLY TRYING TO HELP.
take it easy, why don't you.
URD !!
oh
oh
ah
um
see
HOW PERFECTLY DARLING!!
sigh
WELL, IF HE DID, THEN WHY ARE YOU SO UPSET?
KEIICHI TOLD ME ALL ABOUT IT!
HOW! DARE YOU!!
SWAP
flip
HA! MISSED!
MAYBE I SHOULDN'T HAVE TOLD HER IT LOOKED LIKE "A NASTY LOVE HOTEL!"

HM?
HEY !!
YEAR-END RAFFLE
10 GRAND PRIZES: DINNER AND ONE NIGHT'S ACCOMMODATION FOR TWO AT THE HOTEL KOENIG
...IF I WIN THE RAFFLE, A LITTLE AGONY LIKE THAT WON'T MATTER.
NEKOMI MERCHANTS' ASSOCIATION
YEAR-END FESTIVAL
WOW, IT'S GLOWING! IS THIS A SIGN FROM ABOVE?!
Nekomi Merchants' Association
YEAR-END RAFFLE
10 GRAND PRIZES: DINNER AND ONE NIGHT'S ACCOMMODATION FOR TWO AT THE HOTEL KOENIG
FWIP FWIP
KEIICHI! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!
OH ?!
ENNNN


YEP.
ARE YOU GOING TO TRY YOUR LUCK TODAY?
I MANAGED TO CADGE 50 COUPONS FROM MY FRIENDS IN THE NEIGHBOR-HOOD.
YOU GET ONE DRAW FOR EVERY FIVE, SO THAT GIVES ME TEN CHANCES!
ALL RIGHT, MISTER. LEMME SPIN THE BOX!
whap

NO. NINE MORE SPINS TO GO.
DID WE WIN?!
WHRRRRRRR
plop
VICTORY!
OKAY, SON. BEST OF LUCK.
N.M.A.
ONE MORE, SON.
NO.
NO.
NO.
huh?
hahh hahh
WHY DON'T YOU LET ME GIVE IT A TRY, KEIICHI?


whrrr whrrr
whrrr
WHAT THE--?
whrrrrr
WHRRRRRRRRR
Spin, O Worlds, Spin, O Star, Spin, O Galaxy.
Spin, O Cosmos, Spin Until Good Fortune Is Revealed!


klank
rattle rattle
OH, KEIICHI, LOOK! IT'S GOLD! WE WON!
YOU MEAN WE CAN GO OUT TO EAT FOR FREE?
...WHAT DID WE WIN?
hahh hahh
OH, UH..
Whrrrrr
whrrrr

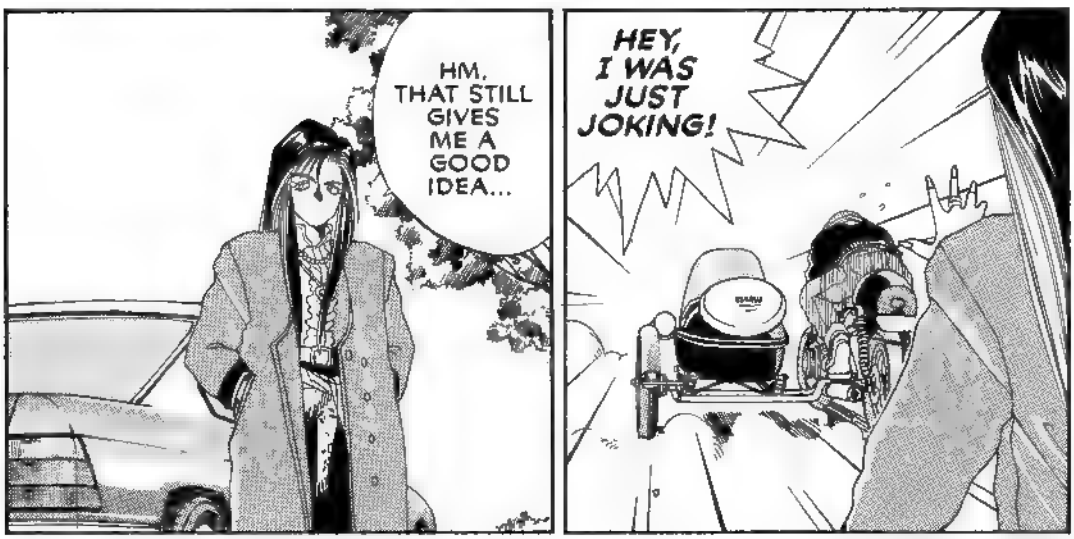
RIGHT, GOT IT.
♬
SO... DAY AFTER TOMOR-ROW... FOUR O'CLOCK.
OK!
YOU-ARE-DEE.
shhh!
TIME TO LEND MY HELP AGAIN.
...FOR JUST THE TWO OF US.
AND A FREE NIGHT'S STAY...

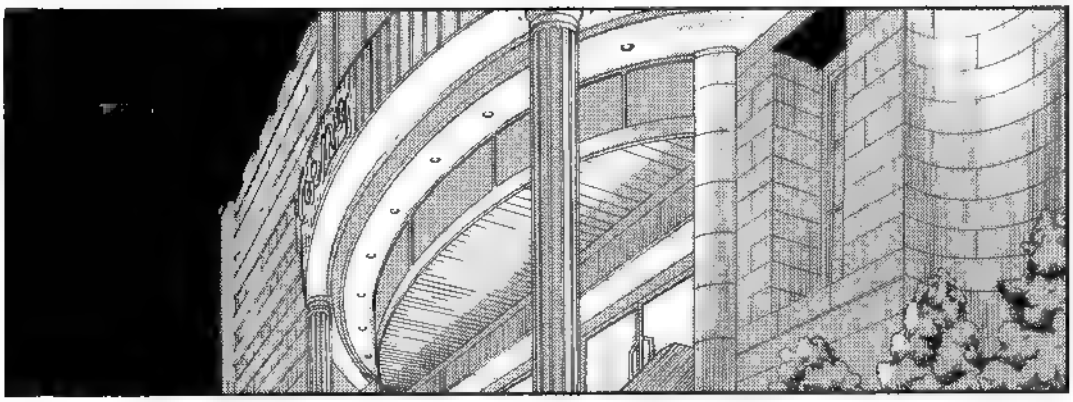
MAYBE THEY'LL HELP
HOTEL KOEN
Complimentary Dinner
Lodgings Voucher
•Good thru January 31st.
•Please bring this voucher to the Registration Desk.
•Formal Attire Required.
WHAT?
EXCUSE ME, uh, SIRS!
FORMAL
FORMAL? I DON'T EVEN HAVE A SHIRT WITH BUTTONS!
FORMAL
WHAT?!
WHAT?

AWRIGHT, YOUSE GUYS! WE GOTS TO HELP OUR PAL HERE!
SO! WANNA BORROW SOMETHING *FORMAL*, EH?
.....
OKAY, LI'L BUDDY. OUR WARDROBE IS *YOURS!*
OH, NO! IT IS *YOU* WHO GOT NONE, OTAKI!
YOU HAVE NO TASTE, TAMIYA!
..TO ASK THE USUAL GANG OF IDIOTS.
I HAVE NO *BRAINS*.
MY WIFE-BEATERS AN' JEANS! HE'S *GOTTA* WANT THAT!
YEAH! WANT MY LEATHERS? MY STUDS?
ER
UH
WHAT.. ALL *THIS?*

HI!
WELL, HOW ARE YOU DOING?
♪ OH, KEI-I-CHI!!! ♫
NOW WHAT ...?
YOU CAN'T BE THAT UNHAPPY TO SEE ME.
oh... SAYOKO...
OH, FROM THE USUAL GANG OF IDIOTS.
FROM WHO?
I HEARD ABOUT YOU WINNING THAT CONTEST.
you did?
THANKS TO THEM, THE WHOLE SCHOOL'S TALKING ABOUT IT!
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, I CAN HEAR THEM.
REAL-LY?
YEAH?
HE IS?

YOU TAKE ME AND NOT BELLDANDY.
ON ONE CONDI-TION.
IF YOU LIKE, I CAN LOAN YOU MY FATHER'S TUXEDO. IT WOULD ONLY LOOK *MILDLY* EMBARRAS-SING ON YOU.
YOU *CAN* ?!
LET ME GUESS. GREASY T-SHIRTS ARE MORE YOUR SPEED, RIGHT?
HMM. NOW (AS *I* HAVE BEEN THERE MANY TIMES) I BELIEVE THE HOTEL KOENIG REQUIRES FORMAL DRESS.
WELL...


HM. THAT STILL GIVES ME A GOOD IDEA...
HEY, I WAS JUST JOKING!



▲ A *GALANT GTO MR.* FROM THE MOTOR CLUB POOL.

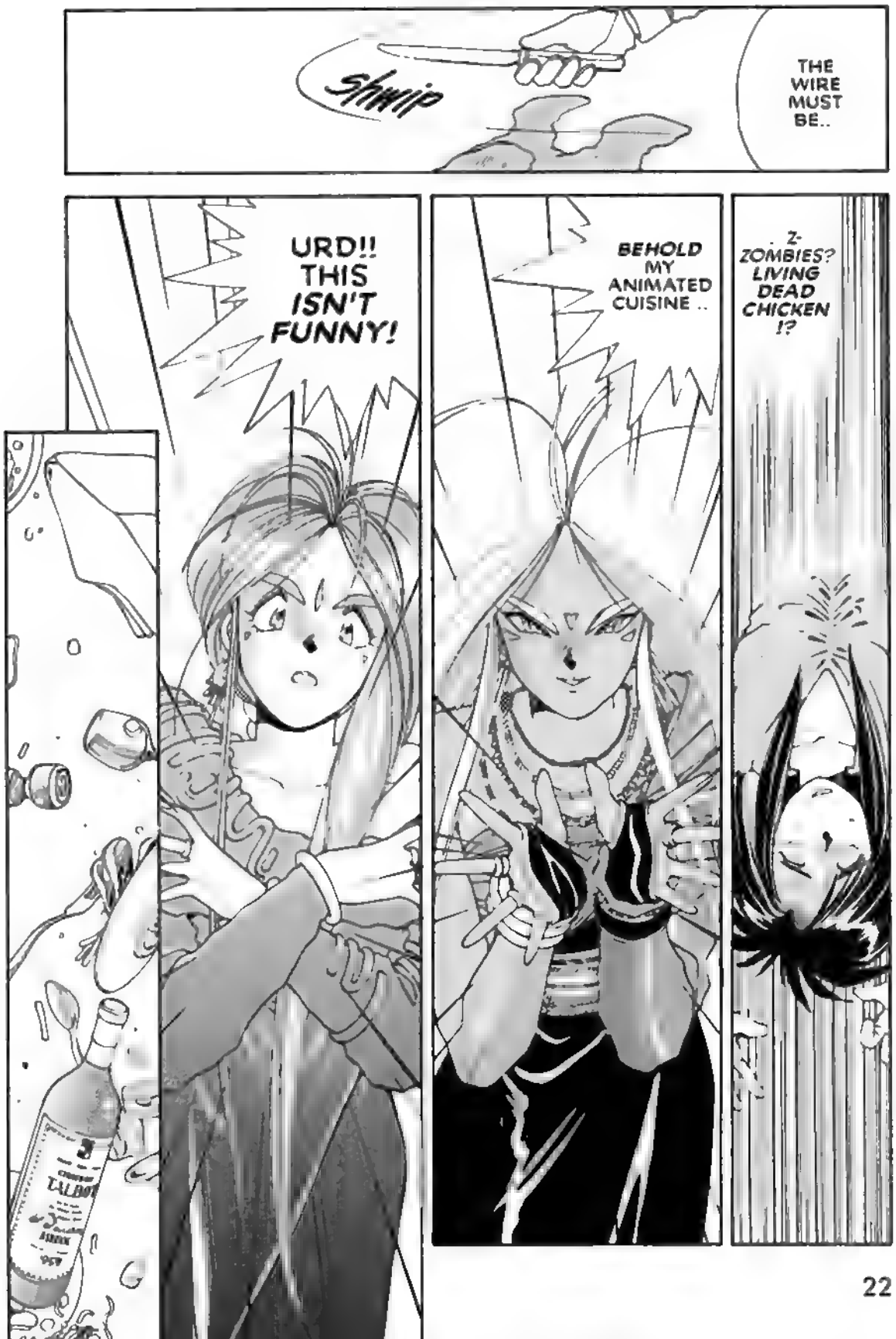
AND EVERYTHING'S GONNA BE JUST PERFECT
RELAX & SIT DOWN BE COOL
CHEERS!
I CAN'T BELIEVE THE CANDLELIGHT
CHEERS

WHAT'S SHE DOING HERE? AND WHO'S HE?!
WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT, MISS URD?
I CONJURED ME A VOUCHER.
SIMPLE.
AND I CONJURED THIS SUAVE FELLOW TOO FOR DECORATION.
IS ANYTHING WRONG?
?
N-N-N-NOTHING...
YET.
!!
SAYOKO, TOO !?
MY DREAMS... RAPIDLY TURNING TO NIGHTMARES!
ARE YOU SURE?

Tho' Rotisserie-Baked, I Bid Thee Awake.
I THINK MY FRIENDS ARE ALREADY HERE, WAITER
oh, certainly!
MAY I JOIN YOU?
HI.
OH, NO YOU DON'T
...For Thou Art Now My Servant!
HOP
GLUCK
gobble
Lo, Poultry...

BUK!
!?
SPLATCH
WHAT ?!
SHRIEK!
OH, NO...
IT'S A CHICK-EN!
WHY, YES!
URD!
HOW?

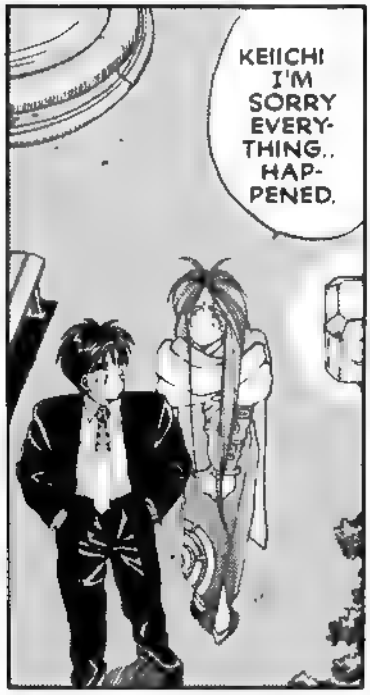
HA HA HA! I'M JUST GETTING RID OF YOUR LITTLE TROUBLE-MAKER THERE!!
DANCE, CHICKEN! DANCE!
FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE, URD, DON'T YOU EVER THINK?!
LOOK WHO'S TALK-ING...
CHICKEN PUPPETS. THEY HAVE TO BE.
WHOP
FWAK
POIK

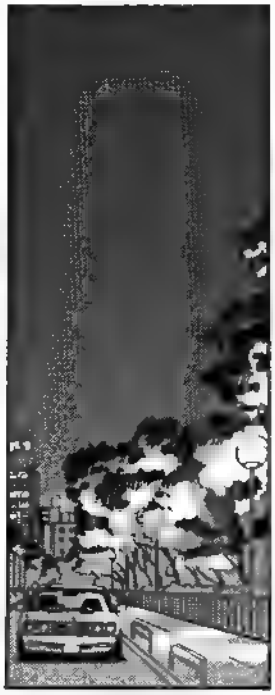

Shwip
THE WIRE MUST BE..
URD!! THIS ISN'T FUNNY!
BEHOLD MY ANIMATED CUISINE ..
Z-ZOMBIES? LIVING DEAD CHICKEN !?

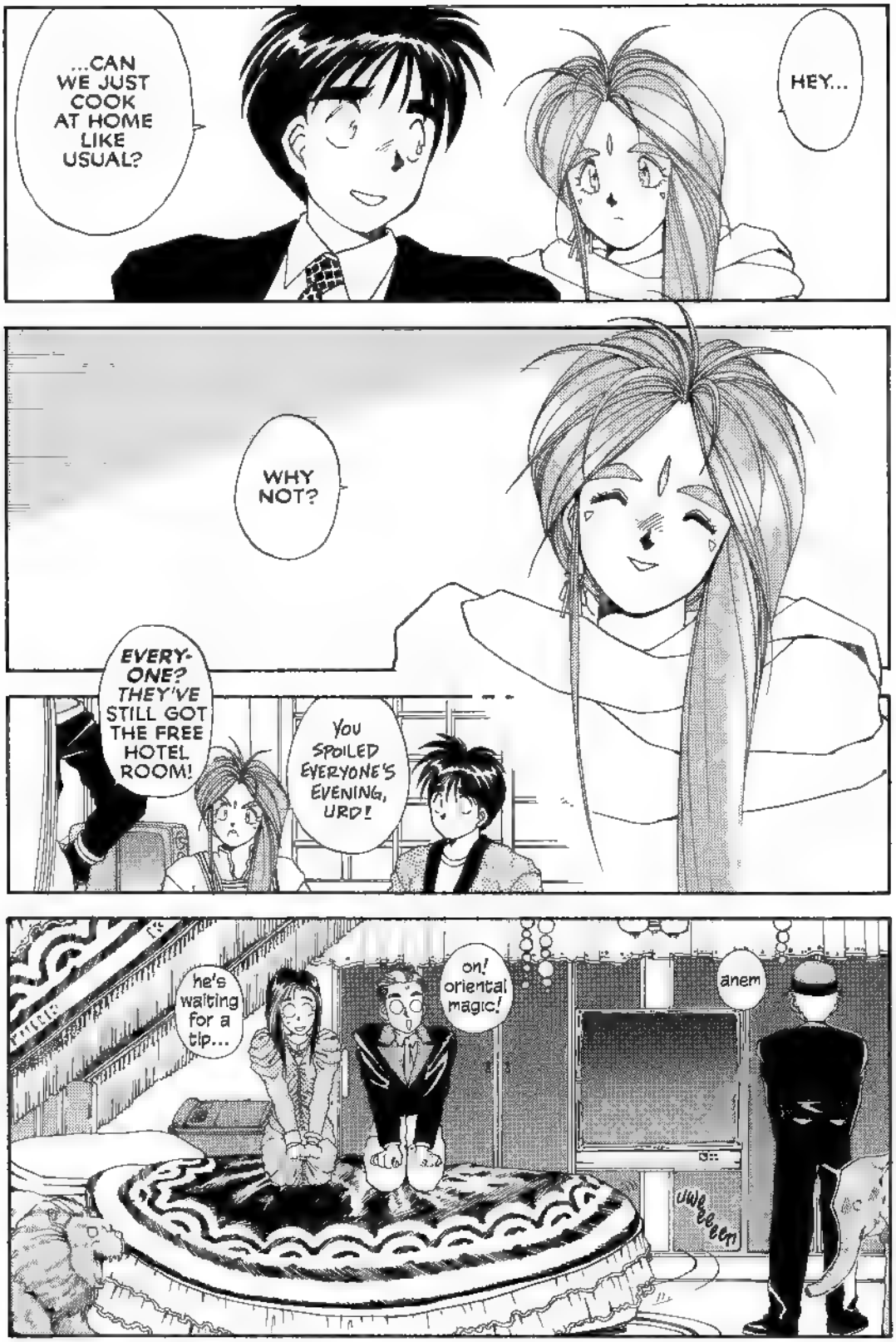
SQUEE!
...FUSION!
GWORK!

IT'S A LITTLE FUNNY. BUT LET'S GO

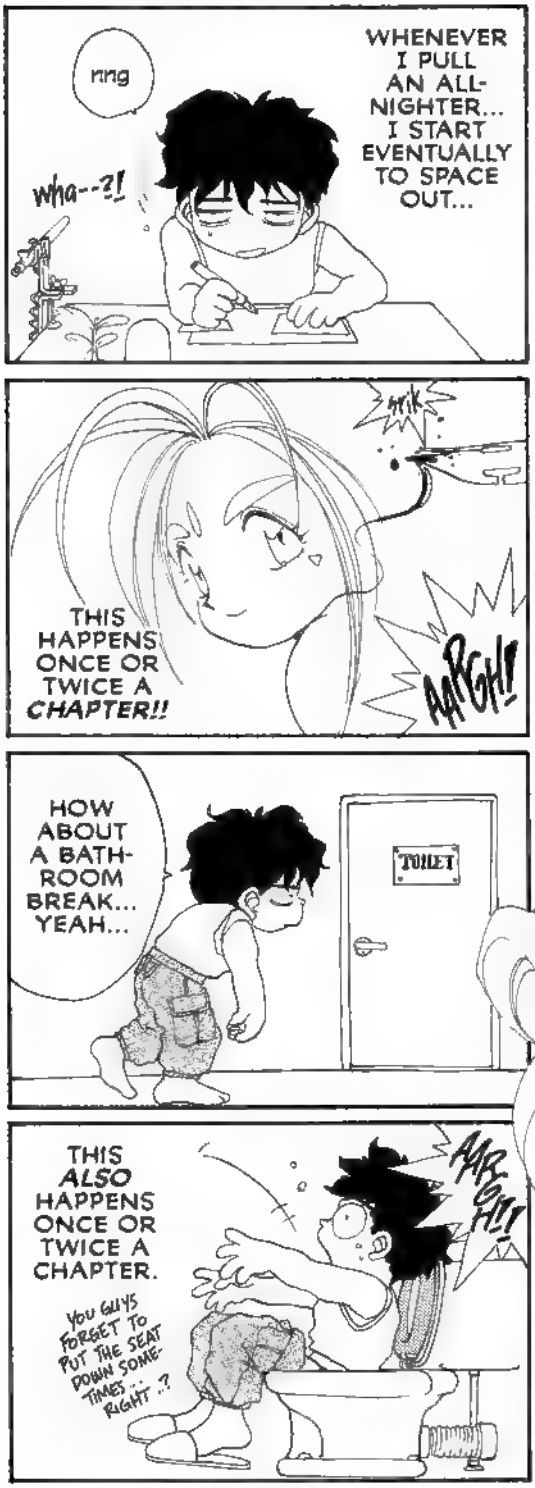
I'M JUST SORRY I NEVER GOT THE CHANCE TO TREAT YOU TO THAT NICE DINNER.
THAT PLACE WASN'T REALLY MY STYLE.


KEIICHI I'M SORRY EVERY-THING.. HAP-PENED.




...CAN WE JUST COOK AT HOME LIKE USUAL?
HEY...
WHY NOT?
EVERY-ONE? THEY'VE STILL GOT THE FREE HOTEL ROOM!
You spoiled everyone's evening, Urd!
he's waiting for a tip...
oh! oriental magic!
anem
uweeeen

THE BACK END


rrng
Wha--?!
WHENEVER I PULL AN ALL-NIGHTER... I START EVENTUALLY TO SPACE OUT...
THIS HAPPENS ONCE OR TWICE A CHAPTER!!
AARGH!!
HOW ABOUT A BATH-ROOM BREAK... YEAH...
TOILET
THIS ALSO HAPPENS ONCE OR TWICE A CHAPTER.
YOU GUYS FORGET TO PUT THE SEAT DOWN SOME-TIMES.. RIGHT..?
AAR-GH!!

OH MY MANGA ART-IST!

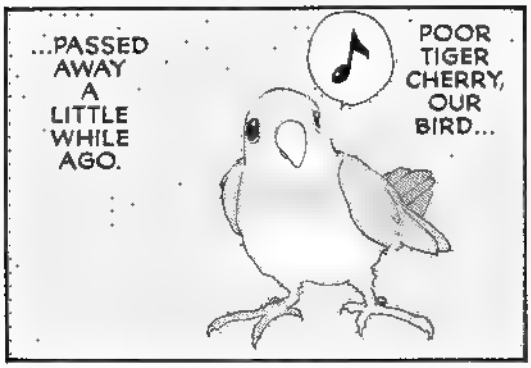
COMICS SIDE STORY

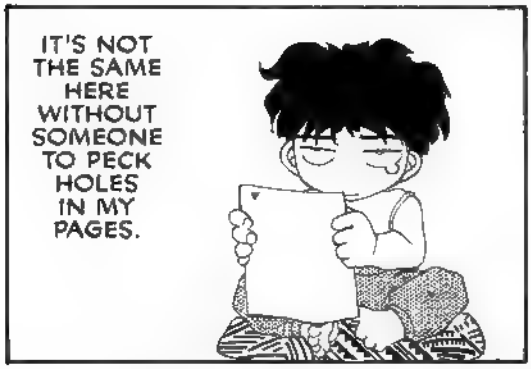
2

TOO!

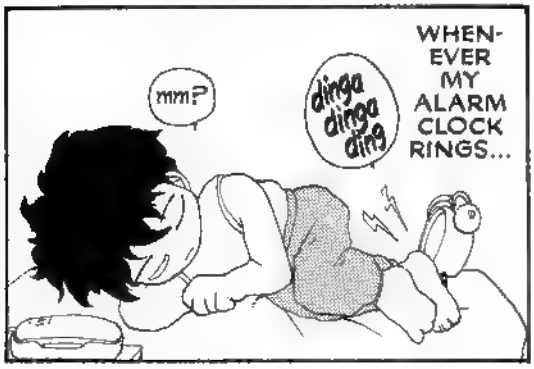
SIR!

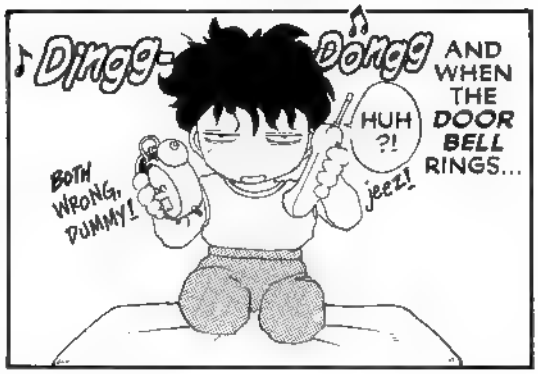
THE HOLE



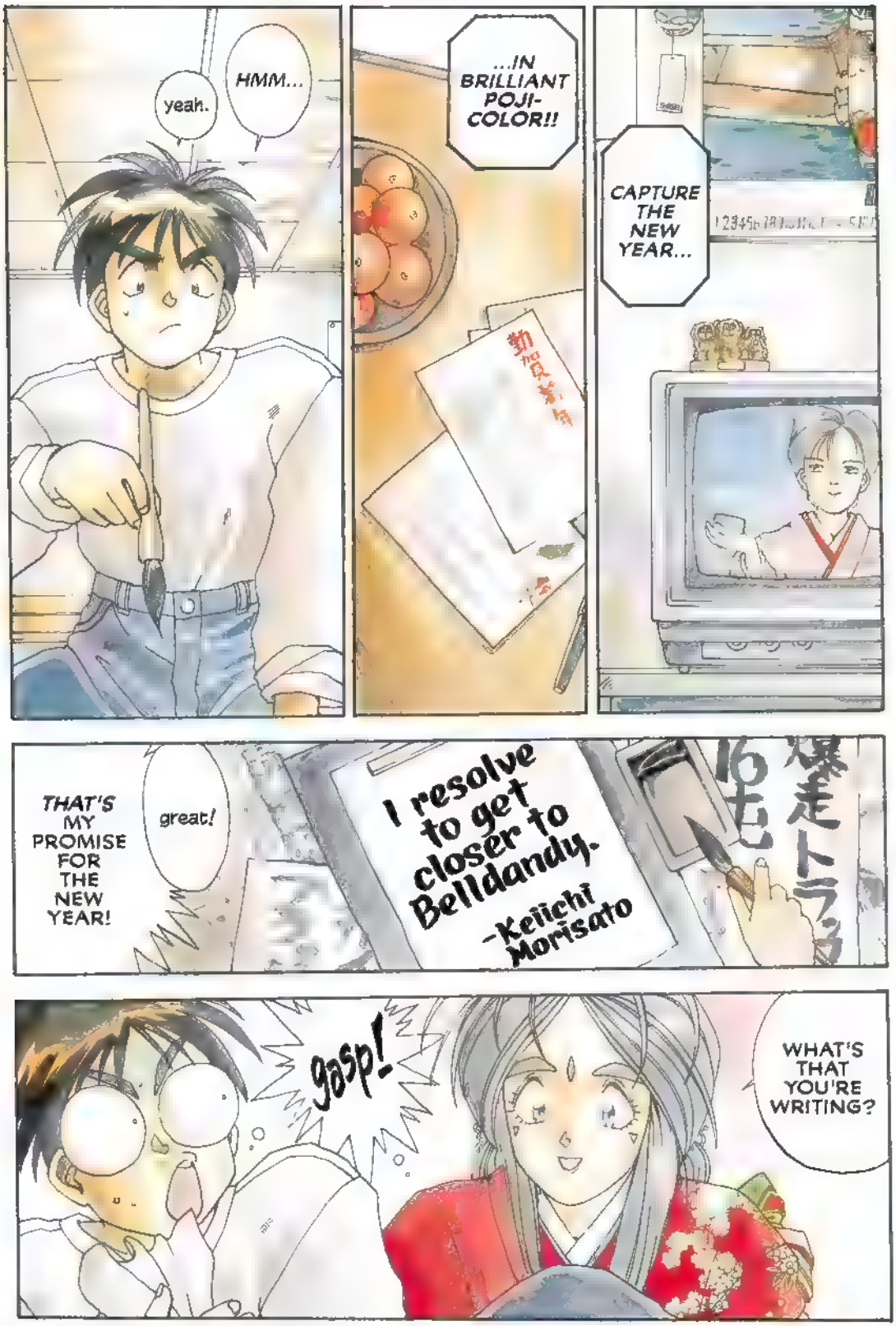


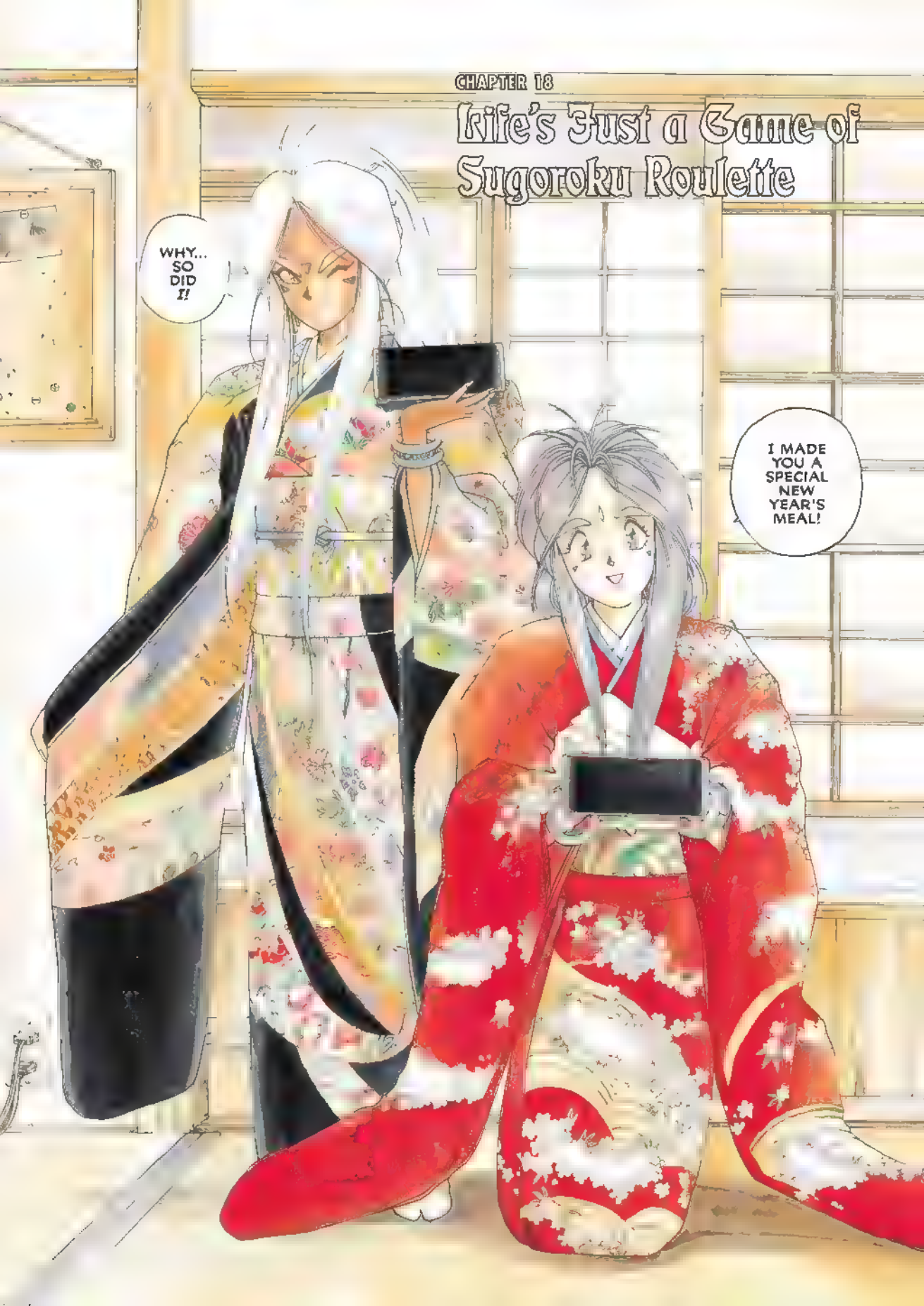
THE MYSTERY





To Be Continued... eventually.


HMM...
yeah.
...IN BRILLIANT POJI-COLOR!!
CAPTURE THE NEW YEAR...
I resolve to get closer to Belldandy.
-Keiichi Morisato
great!
THAT'S MY PROMISE FOR THE NEW YEAR!
gasp!
WHAT'S THAT YOU'RE WRITING?


CHAPTER 18
Life's Just a Game of Sugoroku Roulette
WHY... SO DID I!
I MADE YOU A SPECIAL NEW YEAR'S MEAL!

YOU BOTH LOOK SO PRETTY...
get back.
LEMMESEE LEMMESEE LEMMESEE
HEY! WHAT'D YOU *WRITE*?!
YES... IT TOOK ME ALL DAY YESTER-DAY.
WOW! DID YOU MAKE ALL THIS *YOURSELF*, BELL-DANDY?!
NOT GONNA SHOW ME YOUR RESOLU-TION, HUH?
OH, THANK YOU!
uh-huh
THISH IGH *FANTAS-TIGH!*

the Vow That Makes Keiichi Fidget.
...Reassemble in My Digits...
Promise in the New Year Sworn. Let a Copy Be Here Torn...
A-HA!
I resolve to get closer to Belldandy.
THIS IS A JOB FOR... THE OLDER SISTER!
YOU MAKE THIS ONE, URD?
I RECOGNIZE ONLY THE BOILED NEWT.
JUST CURIOUS.
WELL.
YEAH, why?

Ding-Dongg
WHO?
HI, KEIICHI! I BROUGHT SOME NEW YEAR'S RICE CAKES FOR YOU!
OH, IT'S YOU, MEGUMI.
NOT JUST ME!

DUHHHHHHH... HAPPY NEW YEAR!
YO, MORISATO!
!!

food? eat?
BLABCHAT GOSSIP
LI'L SISTER, HUH?!
OH YUH?!
I ALREADY FEEL BOREDOM SETTLING IN...
'COURSE!
SO-- ARE YOU BEING NICE TO SATOKO?
BORE-DOM ?!
IT'S A NEW YEAR'S TRADITION!
NOT WITH MY BOARD GAME! WHADDYA SAY?
SUGOROKU
OH, COME ON. WOULD YOU BELIEVE IT'S MAGIC?
LIFE SUGOROKU
SPECIAL
THIS IS YOUR LIFE!
BROKE IN A DITCH?
OR FILTHY RICH?
WHAAAAT ...?
YOU GOTTA BE KIDDIN' ME.

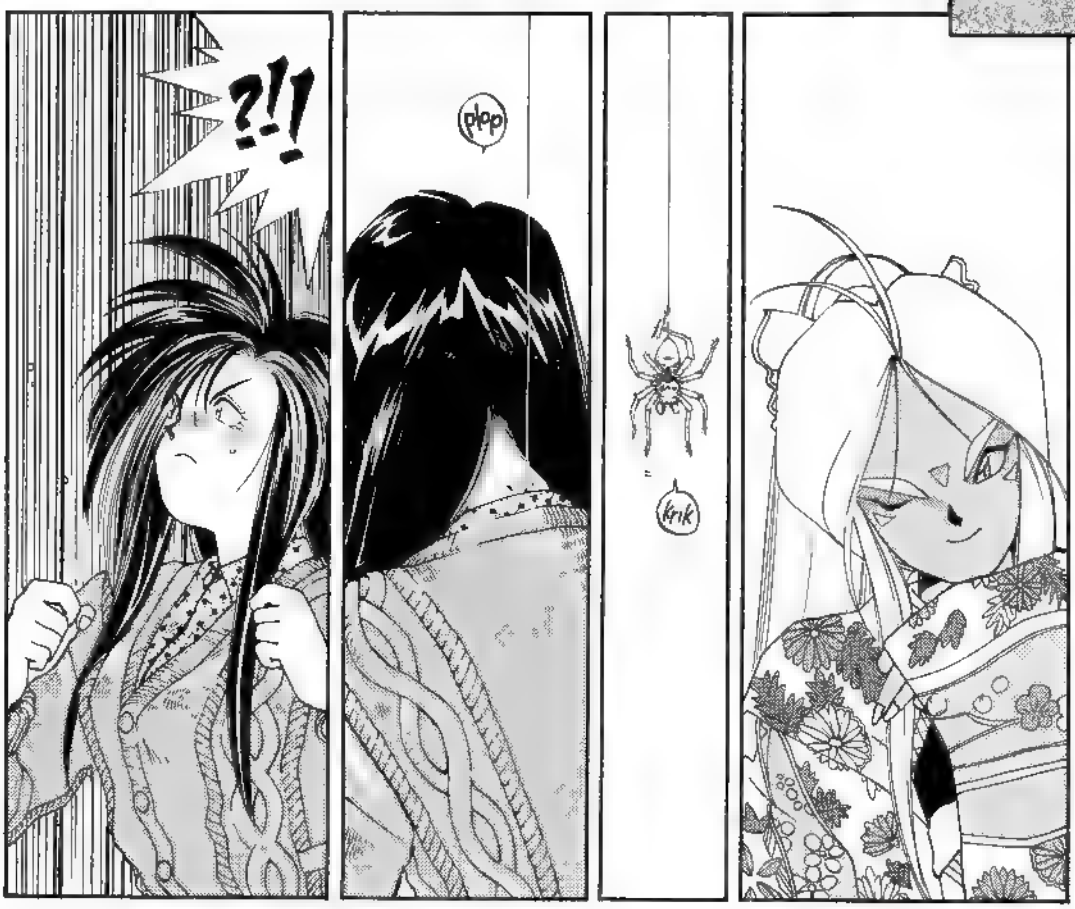
YOU SEE, WHATEVER YOU LAND ON WILL *REALLY COME TRUE!*
SPIN THE WHEEL... TO LEARN YOUR *FATE!!!*
GOAL!
LAME
SO, LIKE... WHAT CAN YOU *LAND* ON...?
WOW !!
GOAL!
You win! The person you choose must make your wish come true!!
Go back to the start, loser!
Go back 0 spaces nd lose turn!
Pretend you're Rocchina and shove someone!
Stick on orange in your mouth
ALL *RIGHT!!*

OKAY, EVERY-ONE... I'LL GO FIRST.
I'LL MAKE DADDY BUY ME A CAMCORD-ER
I'LL MAKE OTAKI BUY ME A STEAK!
I'LL MAKE TAMIYA BUY ME A BURGER!
IF I WIN, I'LL ASK BELL-DANDY TO.
TOTAL B.S!
gulp
HERE GOES!
SKWWWW
klak
LET'S SEE...
1...
2...

You will soon be called "Mossa!"
CONGR
You will annoy others with your incessant
HUH?!
WHAT'S IT SAY?!
5!
HAW! HAW! GOOD JOKE, HUH?!
VERY AMU-SING.
what's that supposed to mean?
heh
MA-MA!

AMAZING! THIS REALLY CAN PREDICT THE FUTURE!
HUH... GUESS IT'S MY TURN.
WHY, IT'S LITTLE RISA FROM ACROSS THE STREET!
C'MON OUT AN' PLAY WITH ME, BELL-MAMA!
OH.
UH?
SHE ALWAYS CALLS ME THAT.
OH, COME ON!
HUH? WHADJA GET?
JEEZ... IT'S JUST A COINCI-DENCE.
SKNNNN
LIKE A GAME CAN PREDICT THE FUTURE.

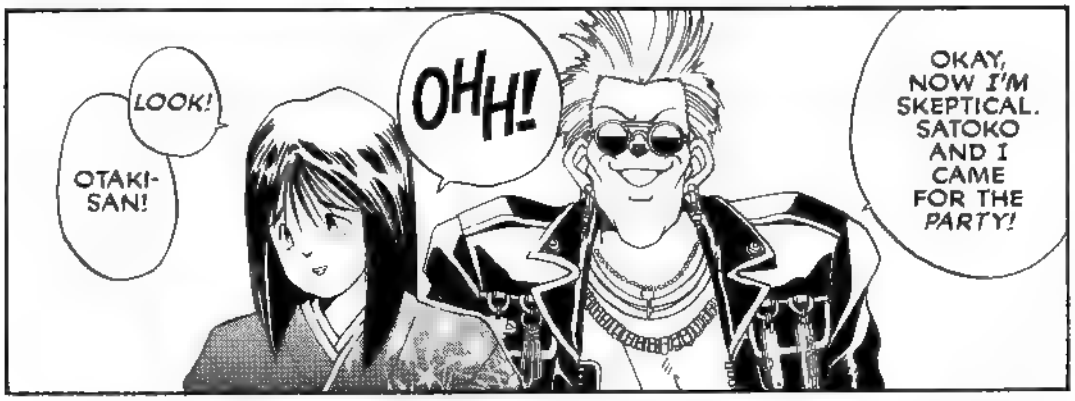
NO I WON'T !!
OOOH!!
will annoy ers with your incessant complaints! Pay $3000 to other players.
You will dance around while removing clothes!

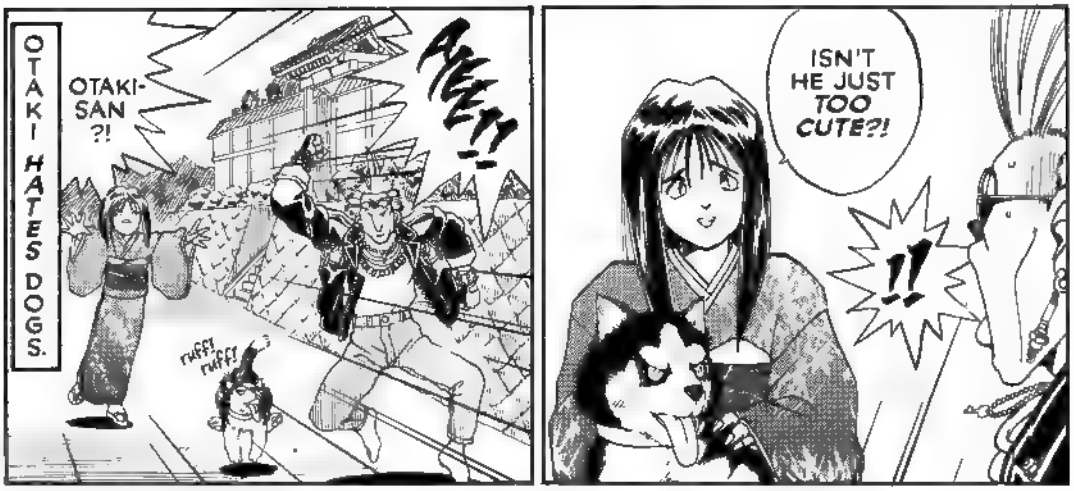

?!!
plop
krik

EEK!! SOMETHING'S CRAWLING DOWN MY BACK! GET IT OFF!
thrash! toss!
GIDDIT OFF! GIDDIT ALL OFF!
YEAH! GET IT OFF!
OKAY, I'M NEXT!!
HEY, ALL RIGHT! I GOT TEN!!
clap clap
JUST LUCK
maybe
YOU GOT THE BEST SPIN SO FAR, KEIICHI!

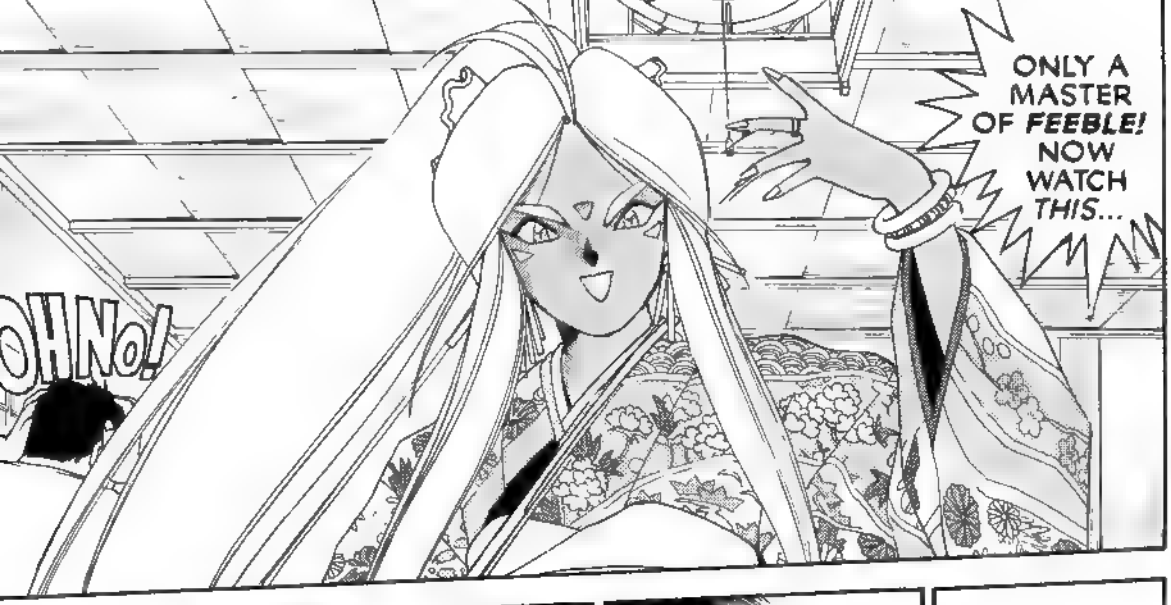
YEAH, RIGHT.
You will sweep the snow from the yard in a T-shirt and pants!
You
HEY. MORI-SATO.
?
WE MUST *FULFILL DA PRO-PHECY!*
HE'S TRYING TO FLY IN THE FACE OF *FATE!*
LOOKIT *ME*--ALL I GOTS IS A MUSSLE T!
JEEZ... WHADDA *WIMP!*
brrr
shishh
brr
shishh
GOOD BOY.
I'VE MERELY INSERTED A TINY MAGIC STONE INTO ITS CENTER TO CONTROL ITS SPEED AND SPIN.
NOT THE *BOARD*-- THE *WHEEL.*
URD...
ARE YOU *INTERFERING* WITH THE BOARD?
ME?!

MY TURN!
WITH THIS "GAFF" IT'S EASY TO "COP" THESE "CHUMPS"!*
*LORD ALSO REGARDS THEM AS MARKS, MOOCHES, GREENIES, AND SUCKERS
LAPLACIAN DEMON'S STONE
You will take a long walk around town with a companion
WHA--?!


LOOK!
OTAKI-SAN!
OHH!
OKAY, NOW I'M SKEPTICAL. SATOKO AND I CAME FOR THE PARTY!


OTAKI HATES DOGS.
OTAKI-SAN ?!
EEE!!
ruff! ruff!
ISN'T HE JUST TOO CUTE?!
!!

COOL IT, MEGUMI, IT'S JUST A GAME...
FOUR!! SURE HOPE IT'S A GOOD ONE, I HOPE I HOPE...
1
2
3
SKWINN
You will eat three servings of squid guts.
OKAY, LEMME AT IT!
RISA-CHAN, WAS THAT YOUR DOG?
um!
....
Skip one turn.
4!
CHECK OUT DA MASTA...
YOUSE GOILS AIN'T TRYIN' HARD ENUFF!
AWWW...
Go back to the start!
SHOO
each player


ONLY A MASTER OF FEEBLE! NOW WATCH THIS...
OH NO!

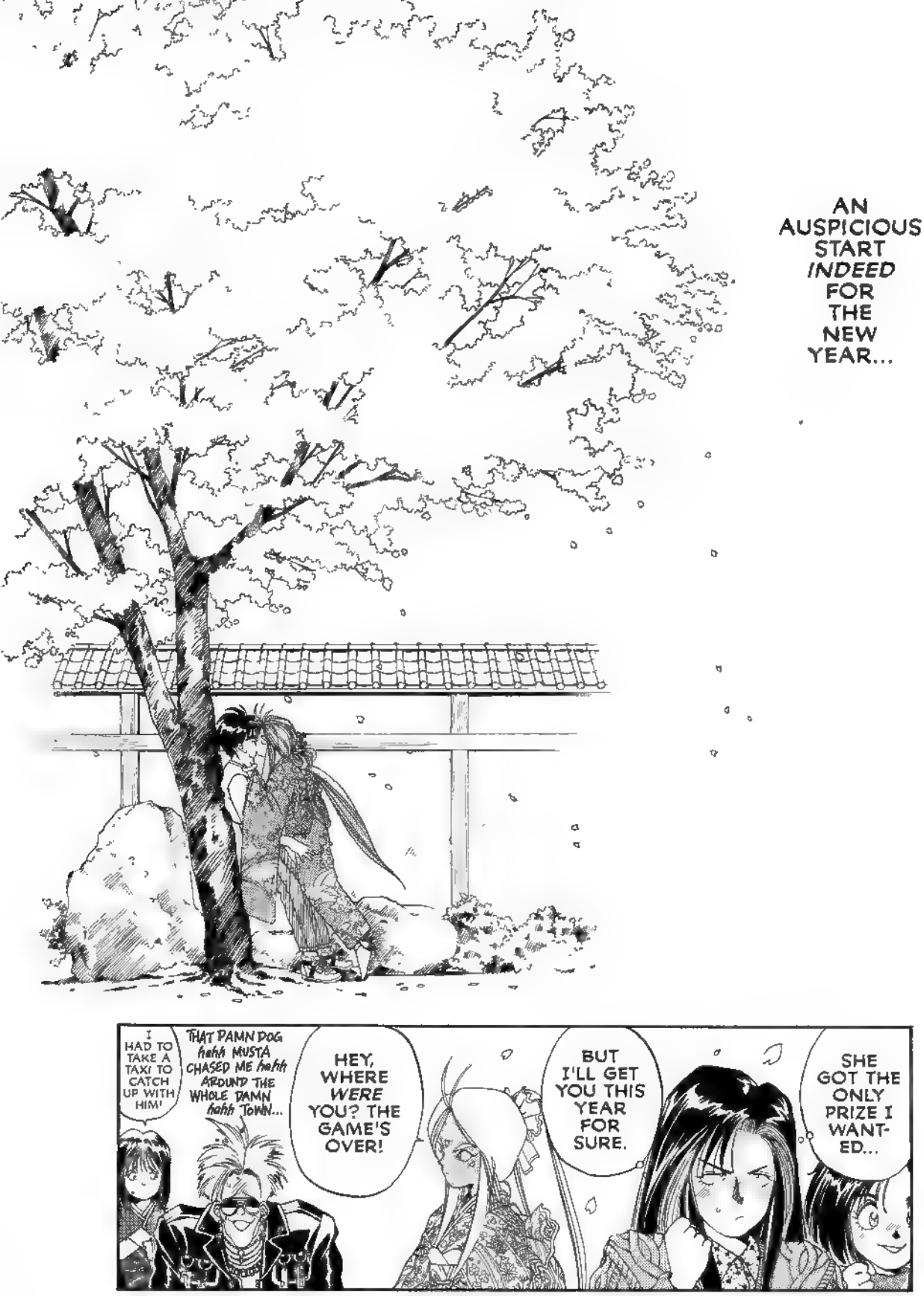
MORI-SATO! GET YOUR BUTT IN HERE!
brrrr brrrr
I-IT'S A-B-B-BOUT T-T-TIME.
URD GOT LUCKY SEVEN!
gasp!

?
Sniff
WHAD'S GOI'G OD, EVER'-BODY?
LET'S SEE, LET'S SEE... WHO SHALL I PICK...
Pick any player and send ther back to the sta
!!
YES!
NO.
TEN.
AT LEAST I GET TO SPIN NOW...
OH, DEAR.
YOU!
...ON "SWEEP" AGAIN ...?
WHY DID I LAND...

WHY DID HE LAND ON THAT SPACE AGAIN ? AND WHY S'URD WINNING THE GAME SO FAR
YOUSE 'S LUCKY ! SE S'ILL GEDDIN SEN' BACK 'A START
NO' SKO ONE 'URN AGAIN
LET ME SCRY THE SPINNER
SCRYSTAL BALL
SCRYSTAL
Shoof
I'm A BUSY MAN SUGAR
HEY" MI'S OFF!
FORGET I" TOOTS"
I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK YOU SIR

PLEASE.
If you spin 3 after landing here go straight
WELL... OKAY.
FOR YOU.
HMPH GUESS SHE GOT THE DEMON ON HER SIDE.
KEICHII!
WELL I HAD A LOT OF FUN
JUST DON'T TELL YA SISTER THAT I LET YOU IN ON THE GRIFT..
OR I'LL NEVER WORK THIS DIMENSION AGAIN

YOU POOR THING! YOU MUST BE SOOO COLD!!
N-N-NOT R-R-REAL-LY...
YOUR LIPS HAVE TURNED BLUE!
have they?
HERE, I'LL WARM THEM UP.
mph
W(OWWWW)...
←she banged his head into the tree.


AN AUSPICIOUS START *INDEED* FOR THE NEW YEAR...

I HAD TO TAKE A TAXI TO CATCH UP WITH HIM!
THAT DAMN DOG hahh MUSTA CHASED ME hahh AROUND THE WHOLE DAMN hahh TOWN...
HEY, WHERE *WERE* YOU? THE GAME'S OVER!
BUT I'LL GET YOU THIS YEAR FOR SURE.
SHE GOT THE ONLY PRIZE I WANT-ED...

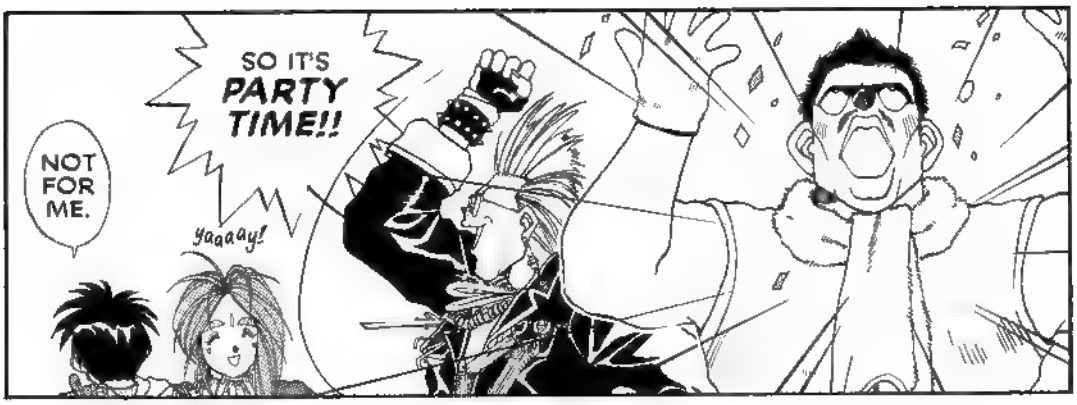
CHAPTER 19

Upon Close Examination

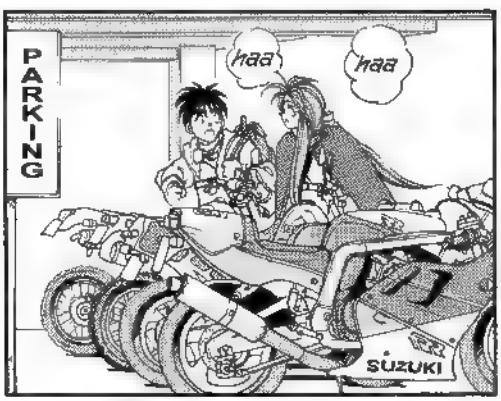
yawn
THE LIFE OF A COLLEGE STUDENT ISN'T ALL FUN AND GAMES (IN CASE YOU WERE UNDER THAT IMPRESSION). AND NO SIDE (EXCEPT DISSERTATIONS) OF IT IS DARKER THAN... FINAL EXAMS.
CHEMISTRY
It's just soy sauce, dummy.
I'll never identify this substance in an hour!
wha?
huh?
I CAN'T HELP BUT NOTICE HOW TIRED YOU LOOK.
KEIICHI, DEAR?
grunt
KEIICHI
twitch
COMP SCI
DUE TO A SYSTEM CRASH THE COMPUTER LAB WILL BE CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.
NO NO Nooo!! IF I CAN'T USE IT TODAY I'LL NEVER GET MY PAPER DONE IN TIME!

YOUR SUFFERING WILL BE LEGENDARY... EVEN FOR HELL!
I MEAN... UHH... IS OKEEEEY, THOUGH... JUS' ONE MORE EXAM...
NIGHT ALL UP STUDYING!
BUT THE TEACHER'S THAT BASTARD OZAWA!
I'VE GOTTA BUST MY BRAIN TONIGHT... OR...
....
WITH HIM, ANYTHING BELOW AN 80 MEANS YOU...
FAIL
FLUNK
FIND AN EASIER SCHOOL!

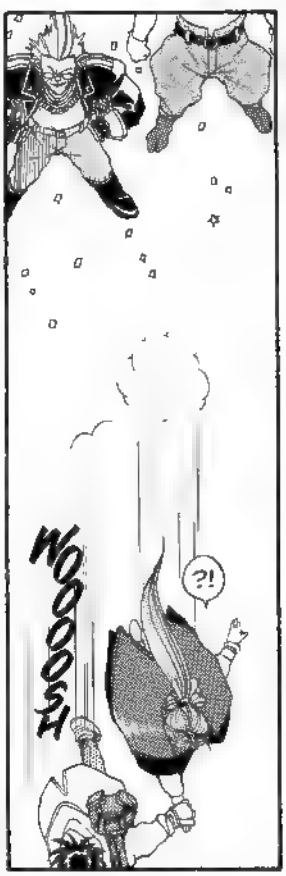
HEY, MORISATO! KNOW WHAT?
WE'RE ALL DONE WITH OUR FINALS!


SO IT'S PARTY TIME!!
NOT FOR ME.
yaaaay!

I'M JUST GOING TO SLOWLY WALK AWAY NOW, OKAY? JUST SLOWLY WALK AWAY.
DON'T TRY AND DRAG ME INTO YOUR PLANS.


PARKING
haa
haa
SUZUKI

GEE... THEY SURE GAVE UP EASY.
SUZUKI

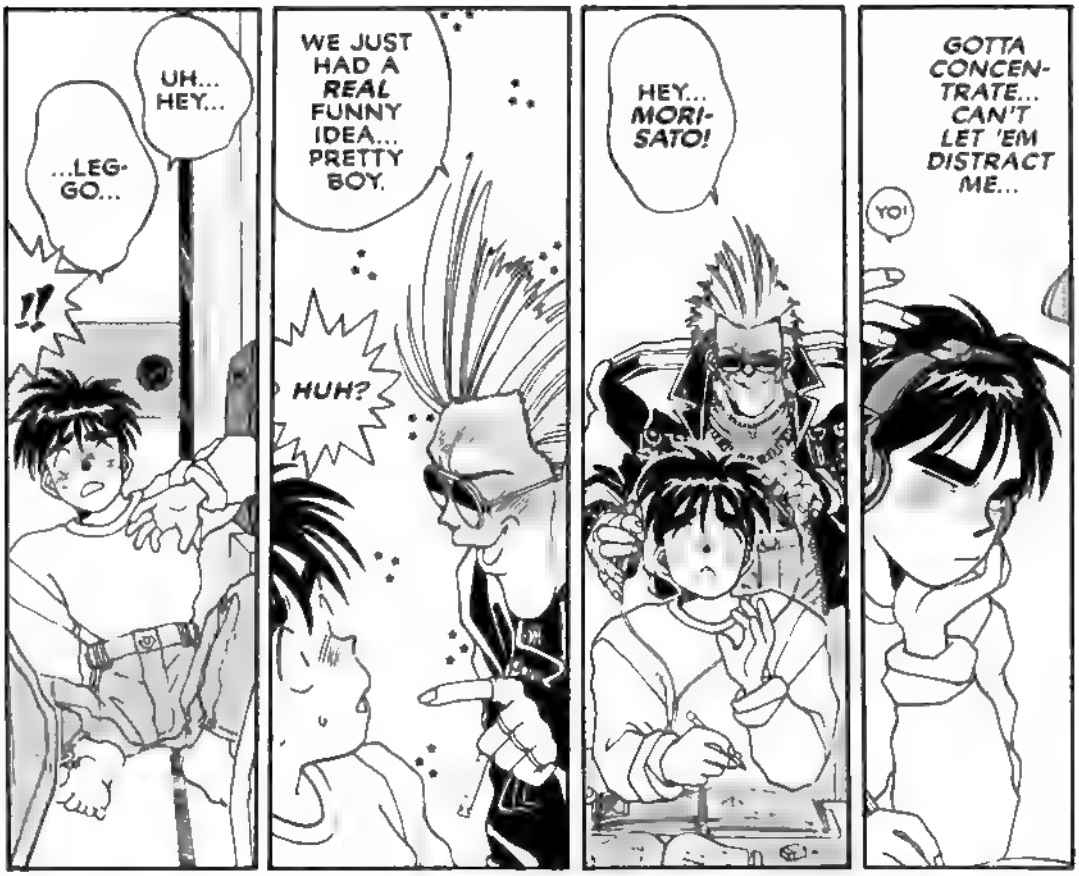

WOOOOSH
?!

BYE.
COME ON.

HE'S NOT DONE YET HUH? BUMMER
WHADDA YUH KNOW
BUT BELLDANDY FELT SOMETHING-- THE FALL OF A TINY BUT DEFINITELY UNLUCKY LEAF
AN ILL OMEN
WE GOTTA GIVE HIM ENCURRIGE-MINT.
RIGHT, PAL.
RIGHT BUDDY?
IN HIS HOUR OF NEED..
YEAH

FWOOOOMF
BANG!
CRASH!
BURN ONNNN THE MERCHANTS OF MATSUBA IN SAITAMA
YOU CAN'T FACE THIS ALONE!
HEY, THE MORE, THE SCARIER!
YOU BROUGHT THE WHOLE DAMN CLUB.
YEAH.. CHILL OUT, DUDE...
meeeowr!
clap! clap!
twaaang twaaang
ARG!
C-6

YOU'RE NO FUN.
PLEASE... JUST ONCE A YEAR.
WANNA PLA--
HEY, I'VE GOT THE PERFECT PARTY GAME...
LIFE SUGOROKU SPE
WE'RE OUTTA BOOZE! BRING ON THE METHYL AND THE ETHYL!!
mmmm... methyl...


UH... HEY...
...LEG-GO...
!!
WE JUST HAD A REAL FUNNY IDEA... PRETTY BOY.
HUH?
HEY... MORI-SATO!
GOTTA CONCEN-TRATE... CAN'T LET 'EM DISTRACT ME...
YO!

NO! PLEASE!

YES?
B-BELL-DANDY ...?
chop chop

PLEASE HIDE ME.
kyaaa! YOU'RE SO CUTE!!
AW, C'MON!
STOMP
MORI-SATO! ACCEPT YOU'S FATE!
STOMP
STOMP
DAMMIT... THEY'RE GONNA FIND ME SOONER OR LATER...
STOMP
STOMP
YOUSE COME BACK HERE DIS INSTINT!
YOUR BEAUTY CANNOT ESCAPE US!
HM?
I GUESS I HAVE NO CHOICE.

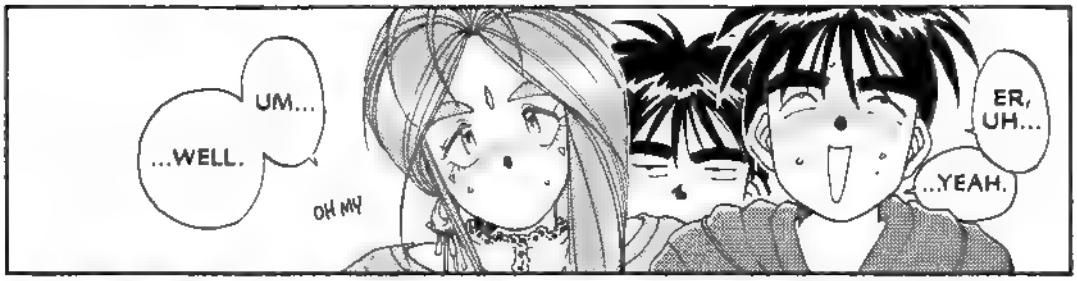
I'LL NEED ONE STRAND OF YOUR HAIR.
Yoink
OW.
I'VE NEVER TRIED THIS BEFORE...
...SO I CAN'T PROMISE IT'LL WORK.
Return to the Source of Life...
And Grant Me the Power This to Create...
I, Belldandy, Thus Entreat You!
O Gods of the Sea, Gods of Earth, and Sky...

BLUP
BLORP
I HOPE I DID EVERY-THING RIGHT...
I'M SORRY... NOT ENOUGH SALT.
BACK YOU GO!!
WHAT'S THAT FOR?!
WHA..
BLOOSH!
KEEEE!!!
BURBLE
THIS TIME IT SHOULD WORK.
NOW
sigh

WOW...
DO I REALLY LOOK THAT DUMB?
HEY!
!!
I CAN HAVE *HIM* TAKE THE EXAM FOR ME!
UM...
BLOOSH
AH, YES.
NO!
IT'S BETTER FOR YOU IF YOU TAKE THE EXAM YOURSELF.
TAKE EXAM YOUR-SELF TAKE EXAM YOUR-SELF
BE-SIDES...
...THEN THIS THING IS ONLY AS BRIGHT AS A *CALCU-LATOR.*
KEIICHI, THIS SIMULACRUM ISN'T NEARLY AS SMART AS YOU. IF YOUR BRAIN IS A *HIGHLY ADVANCED* 386 PERSONAL COMPUTER...

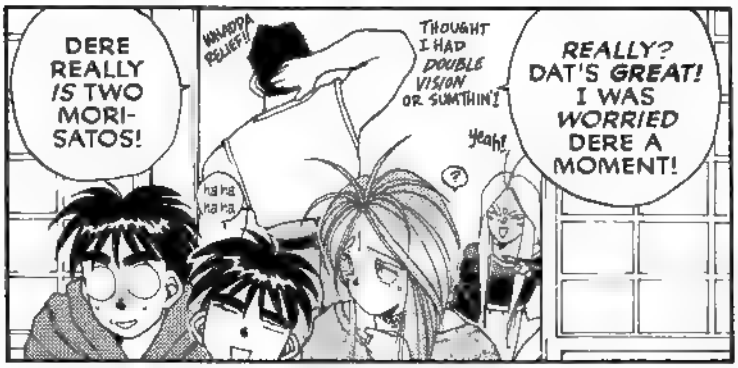
....
EXAMS AREN'T JUST FOR *OTHERS* TO TEST YOU.
THEIR MOST IMPORTANT PURPOSE IS TO LET YOU KNOW WHERE YOU ARE... AND WHERE YOU WANT TO BE.
SO WHAT YOU'RE SAYING IS...
GIVE THE REPLICA TO YOUR FRIENDS TO PLAY WITH
...AND THEN STUDY SAFELY IN HERE...?
FINE, BUT--
FOUND YUH!
um

!!


UM...
...WELL.
OH MY
ER, UH...
...YEAH.

ME UH FOUR
ME, THREE.
YEAH! I SEE IT, TOO!

BOY, IS I DRUNK.
OOF.
you see dis Otaki?

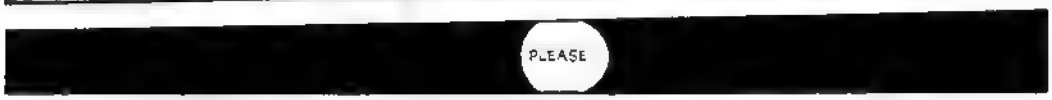

DERE REALLY IS TWO MORI-SATOS!
WHADDA RELIEF!
THOUGHT I HAD DOUBLE VISION OR SUMTHIN'!
REALLY? DAT'S GREAT! I WAS WORRIED DERE A MOMENT!
Yeah!
?
ha ha ha ha

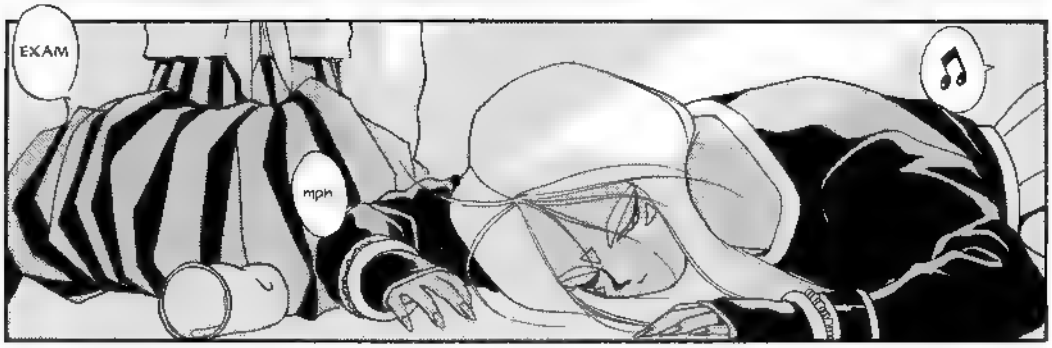
PLEASE! WAIT A MO-MENT...
I...
OH!
AWRIGHT DEN..WE'S GONNA TAKE DIS ONE!
DERE'S ENUFF TO SHARE!
DIS ONE DIS ONE
UPI!
IN THAT CASE, I GET THIS ONE!
HEH, HEH, HEH...
OH, DEAR...
HAW! HAW! HAW!
ZZZZ
...I used up too much of my strength.

WEAR THE SHAMEFUL GARMENTS OF THE OPPOSITE SEX, MORI-SATO!
TAKE IT OFF! TAKE IT ALL OFF!
HMM GOTTA GET MORE EYE-LINER
STOP IT, URD!! I GOTTA STUDY!!

MY EXAM
MY FINAL
....
MY EXAM! MY FINAL! PLEASE!!
SHRIEK! beg! PLEAD!

PLEASE
PLEASE
PLEASE...
please...


PLEASE


EXAM
mph

EXAM
EXAM.
SALE
C'MON... IT'S EARLY...
HMM ...?
ALL RIGHT
ALL RIGHT
GEEZ! THERE'S MORE TO SCHOOL THAN EXAMS, YOU KNOW!
THERE'S ALSO DRINKING AND, AND... DRINKING!
IF YOU WANNA TAKE IT SO BAD...
EXAM
..THEN HOLD ON TO THE BROOM.
Oh Humble Sweeper, Thou Has Not Power O'er Our Party's Sickening Mess.

Therefore Be of Good Use and Send this Loser to His Appointed Test!
FWOOSH
BACK TO BED.
SO MUCH FOR THAT.
DOWNRANGE
WHEEEEE
WHAM
!!

YOU...
YOU KNOW, THAT'S A HIGH SCHOOL OUTFIT.
SUCH FRIENDS HE HAS
EXAM.
KEIICHI? IS THAT YOU?!
shwip
EXAM
?!
SHSSSSS
LOOK... ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE OKAY?
EXAM
YOU'RE TAKING THE ANALYTICS EXAM TOO, RIGHT?
BACK AT THE PARTY
!!
urg
arg

IT'S STARTED ALREADY!
WHAT THE--
...THAT THING'S ALREADY HERE!
YOU'RE RIGHT!
THE...
?
HOW IN HEAVEN'S NAME DID IT EVER FIND THE PROPER CLASSROOM? THERE IS A SOLUTION, BUT...
AND OZAWA DOESN'T LET PEOPLE IN LATE!

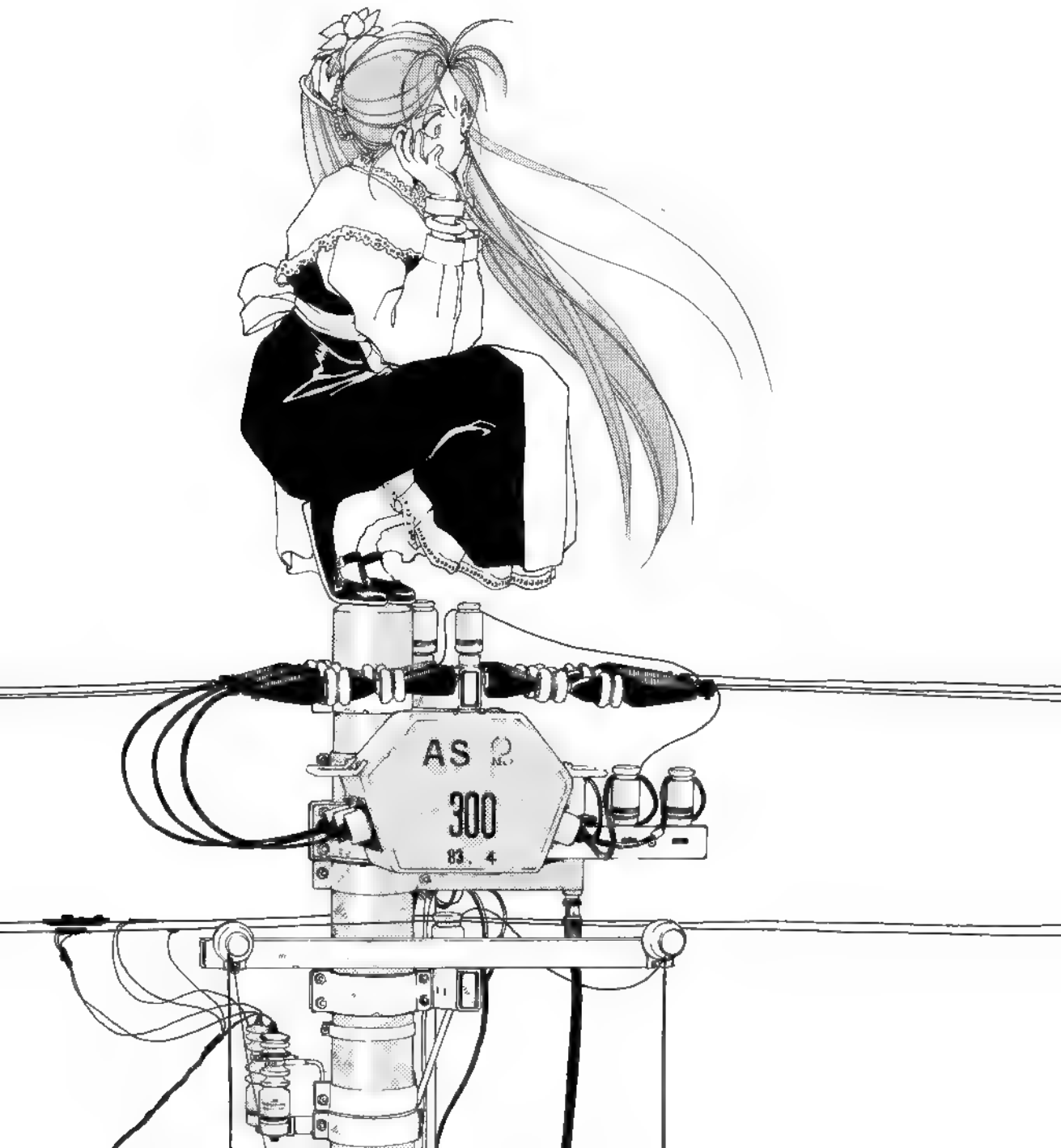
WE CAN JUST SWITCH YOU FOR IT.
BUT I NEED YOUR HELP.
PLEASE WEAR THIS WIG..
...AND SAILOR SUIT.
OH, NO-- NOTHING SO EXTREME IS REQUIRED.
CAN'T YOU JUST, I DUNNO, STOP THE UNIVERSE ON ITS AXIS, OR SOMETHING?
WHEN I SAY "GO," YOU DASH STRAIGHT DOWN THE ROW OF CHAIRS.
THEN, THE INSTANT YOU GET BEHIND IT..
...PLUCK OUT THE SINGLE WHITE HAIR ON ITS HEAD.
RIGHT.
FZKK
THE AIR FEELS THICK
GO !!

HEY.. NOBODY S NOTIC- ING
WHSSHHH
BELL- DANDY DIDN'T ACTUALLY STOP TIME
TEMPORARILY INCREASING THE SPEED OF HIS MUSCULAR AND NERVOUS SYSTEM.
INSTEAD, SHE CONCENTRATED AN ENTIRE DAY'S WORTH OF KEIICHI'S KINETIC ENERGY INTO A SINGLE INSTANT...
NHOOP
HIS MOVEMENTS WERE TOO FAST TO BE DETECTED BY THE HUMAN EYE... AND TO KEIICHI EVERYONE ELSE APPEARED FROZEN
WHY IS MORI SATO DRESSED LIKE A SCHOOL GIRL?
tmp
ahem

?!
WHOOSH
INSTITUTE TECHNOLOGY
I MEAN... EYES DOWN, EVERY-ONE!
WHAT WAS THAT?!
FIGHT, KEIICHI! YOUR EFFORTS WILL BE REWARDED!
KEIICHI S ACADEMIC REPUTATION WAS SAVED. BUT HE HAD ACQUIRED A NEW REPUTATION ON CAMPUS... THAT OF A CROSS-DRESSER.
WHAT'S HE GOT ON UNDER THAT COAT?
LOOK! IT'S HIM!
AND SO
DAMMIT!
IT WROTE "MY EXAM" AS THE ANSWER TO EVERY-THING!
GOTTA ERASE 'EM ALL FIRST...

CHAPTER 20

Belldandy in Danger



JOIN THE QUEST FOR THE MONO-POLE!
...IN A CHORUS LINE...!
SUPER SCIENCE STUDY GROUP
CHORUS LINE CLUB
EXIT
LAUNDRY LOVERS SOCIETY
CLUB
I HEAR THEIR GIRLS ARE AWE-SOME!
OH YEAH?
ART CLUB
HEY GUYS! OVER HERE!
IT'S THAT... MOTOR CLUB!
DAMN!
WOOOOOOO
....
....
ART CLUB
BABES GALORE!
SIGN HERE
flip
flip
WE'RE THE ART CLUB!

AWRIIIGHT!!
HI EVERY-BODY!
WELCOME TO THE NEKOMI MOTOR CLUB!
N.M.T. MOTOR CLUB

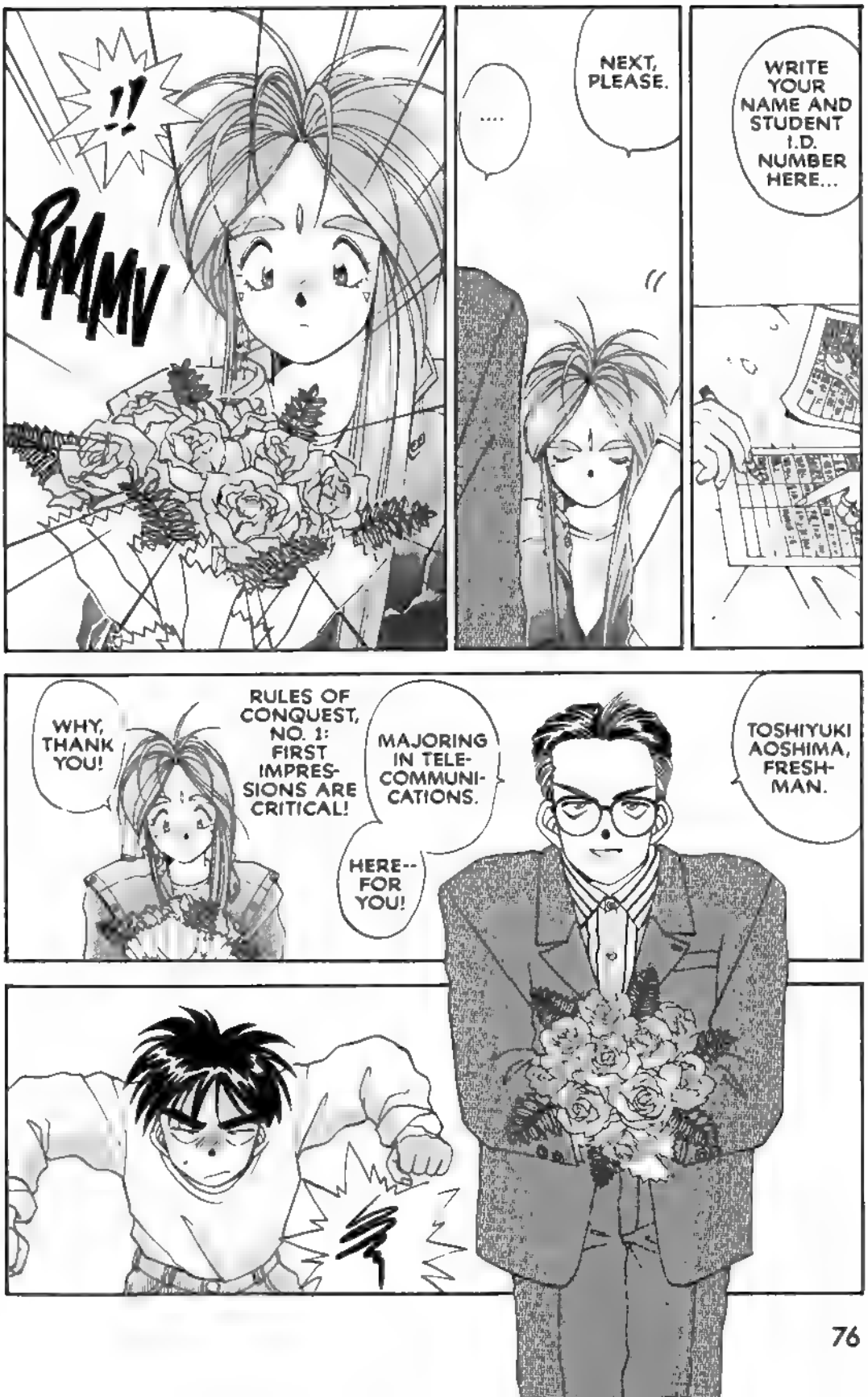
TO SIGN UP, JUST STEP OVER HERE
AHA! OPPORTUNITY PRESENTS ITSELF! ENROLLING HERE WASN'T SUCH A DUMB IDEA AFTER ALL!
STEP RIGHT UP! NOW ACCEPTING NEW MEMBERS!
EXCUSE ME!
I HAVE A QUESTION!
YES?
SUCH AS— DATING YOU FOR INSTANCE?
DOES MEMBERSHIP COME WITH ANY, UH SPECIAL PRIVILEGES?
N.I.T.
N.I.T.

...OF COURSE !!!
WHY...

HAVE YOU NO SHAME?
SURE. BUT LOOKIT DAT LINE.
shuffle shuffle shuffle

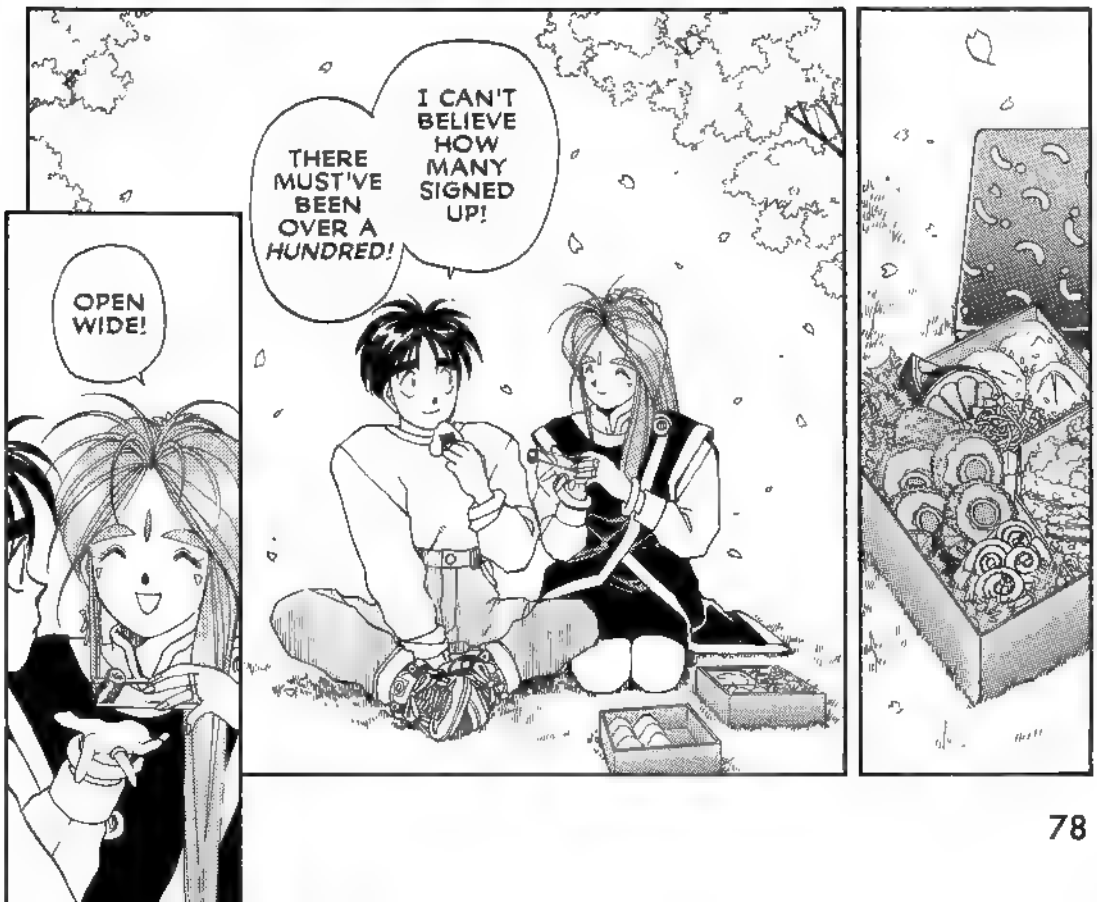
NO! WAIT! HE LIES! HE LIES !!!
Is there a prob-lem?

I'M SIGN-ING!
I'M SIGN-ING!


!!
RMMV
....
NEXT, PLEASE.
WRITE YOUR NAME AND STUDENT I.D. NUMBER HERE...
WHY, THANK YOU!
RULES OF CONQUEST, NO. 1: FIRST IMPRESSIONS ARE CRITICAL!
MAJORING IN TELE-COMMUNICATIONS.
HERE--FOR YOU!
TOSHIYUKI AOSHIMA, FRESHMAN.

RULES OF CON-QUEST, NO. 2...
HEH...
SHAKE!
A GUY CAN ONLY PUT UP WITH SO MUCH!
AH, MY FRIEND! YOU'RE LUCKY TO HAVE SUCH A LOVELY LADY!
UH--
HUH?
UH-- I GUESS SO...
I HEAR YOU'RE ONE OF THE TOP MEMBERS OF THIS CLUB! I HOPE YOU CAN TEACH ME, SIR!
PLEASE!
..."TO WIN THE DAUGHTER, FLATTER HER FATHER" SO TO SPEAK

SO WHO'RE YOU CHASING THIS TIME?
heh-heh
OH, RIGHT...I'D *FORGOTTEN* THIS WAS YOUR SCHOOL, SAYOKO!
WELL, WELL... FANCY MEETING *YOU* HERE, TOSHIYUKI!
!


OPEN WIDE!
THERE MUST'VE BEEN OVER A *HUNDRED!*
I CAN'T BELIEVE HOW MANY SIGNED UP!

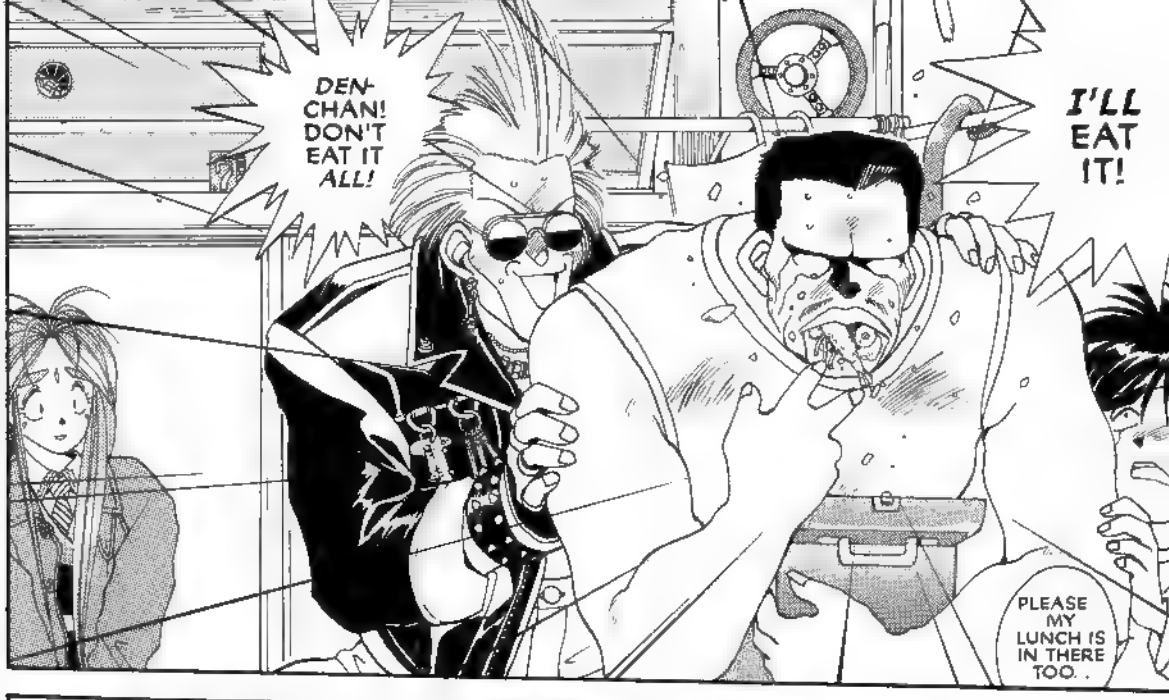
HUH?
shhirrp
HUH!
IT'S... IT'S...! I...I CAN'T TAKE IT!!
THE FLAVOR! A TASTE SUPREME! BEYOND A FIVE-STAR CHEF'S BEST DREAMS!
FAR TASTIER THAN THE FURTHEST STAR IS...uh... FAR!
I MEAN IT'S REAL GOOD!!!
what the...
MR. AOSHI-MA?

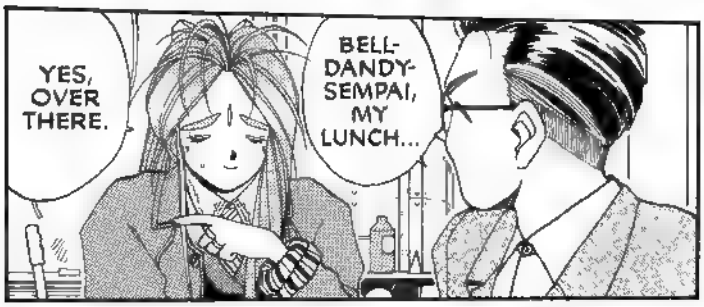
MY MOTHER WAS A BUSY WOMAN.
NEVER ONCE DID SHE EVER FIX ME LUNCH...
RULES OF CON-QUEST, NO. 3...
HEY, YOU OKAY?
Oh, no...
...whenever I eat tasty food, I have those episodes...
YES?
Y-YEAH, I GUESS.
YOU'RE A LUCKY MAN, SIR. YES, YOU ARE!
WELL!
AHEM.
...I CAN MAKE ONE FOR YOU TOMOR-ROW!
WELL, IF YOU LIKE...
...BUT I'M NOT BITTER.
seems like nobody's got any shame today...

..."EATING TOGETHER IS THE FIRST STEP TO... FRIENDSHIP."
...I-I REALLY SHOULDN'T...
N-NO, THAT'S ALL RIGHT...
HE JUST LAID *TWO* HANDS ON HER!
OH... WELL...
GRIPP
...BUT *HOW* CAN I REFUSE SUCH A KIND OFFER?
OH, YES!
OUTTA BE A FULL HOUSE!
NEXT DAY AT THE MOTOR CLUB...
WELCOME

HEL-LO, EVERYONE !!
HUH ?!
WHERE'S ALL THE NEW RECRUITS ?!
WH- WHAT HAPPENED ?!
LIKE DAT... BELLDANDY AN' URD... IS ALREADY TAKEN BY "MACK MAN" MORISATO.
SUMBUDDY'S BEEN SPREADIN' TRAGIC RUMORS 'BOUT DA CLUB.

...OH.
SOB
WE'RE STILL HERE, GOOD BUDDY.
HEY, HEY...
DEY QUIT... AS ONE SOLID MASS!
I GUESS THIS LUNCH I PACKED FOR MR. AOSHIMA WILL GO TO WASTE...
HANNY
Whoosh
!!
LUNCH, HUH?
LUNCH...


DEN-CHAN! DON'T EAT IT ALL!
I'LL EAT IT!
PLEASE MY LUNCH IS IN THERE TOO..


YES, OVER THERE.
BELL-DANDY-SEMPAI, MY LUNCH...

HELLO! SORRY I'M LATE!
THE EARTH

shlorp
mnch

errrp!
urp!

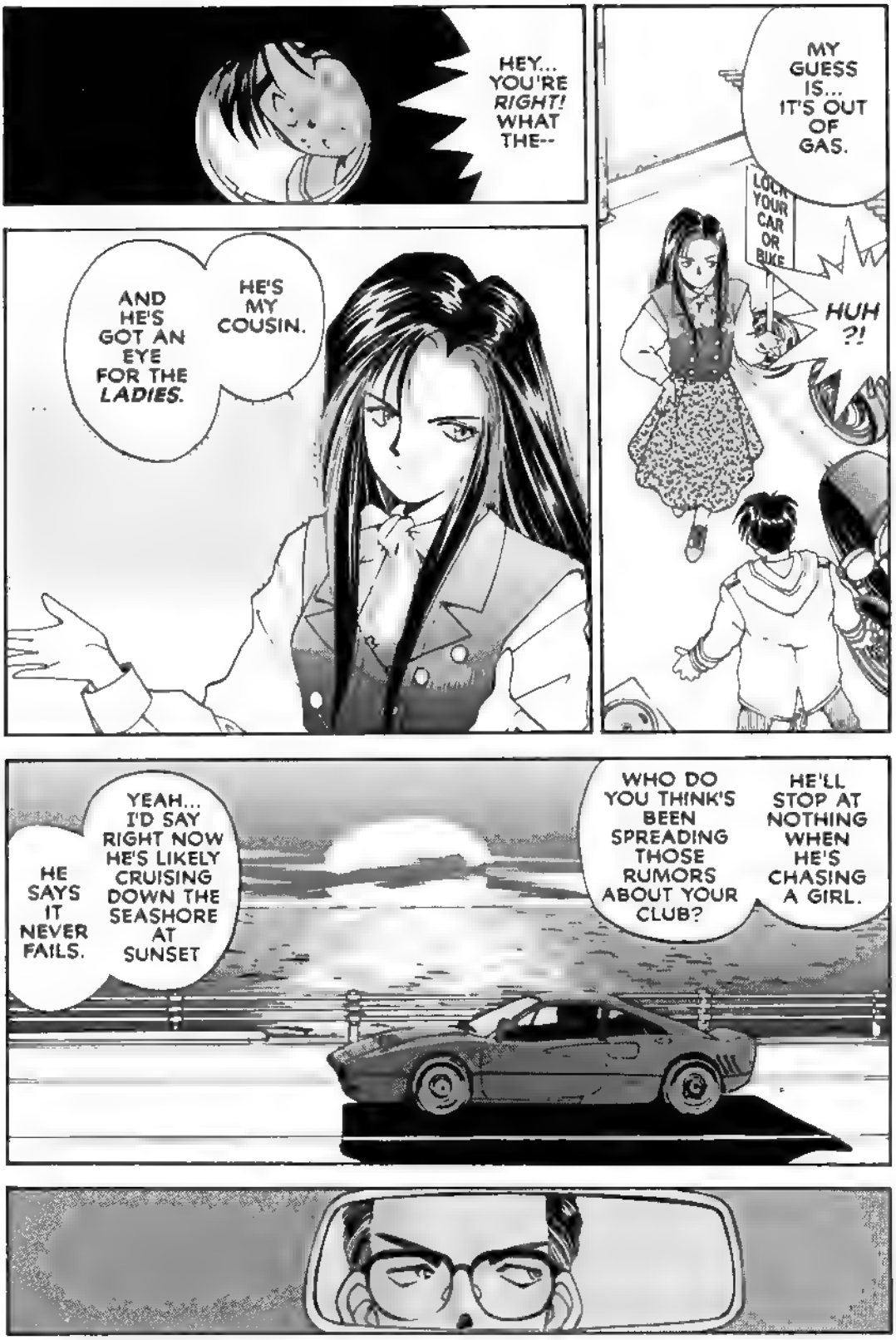
um... I HEARD THERE WAS A PARTY AT THE MOTOR CLUB TODAY...
MAY-BE NOT?
N-NOT THE DREADED GRIZZLY HUG OF INITIATION!
um...
WEL-COME TO DA CLUB!
SQUISH
WELL, YES, KIND OF, BUT...
ARRRR!
um...
um...
TEN MORE PEOPLE WANDERED IN TO JOIN IN THE NEXT HOUR. AMAZINGLY... HALF OF THEM STAYED.
WELCOME TO DA CLUB!
WELCOME!
NEW MEMBERS!
HURK!!

FIVE NEW MEMBERS... WELL... THAT'S NOT SO BAD...
SIR?
BRRM
BRRMMMMM
HEADING HOME, YOU TWO?
HOLY PININ-FARINA!

A FERRARI 288 GTO!
400 HP 2855CC!
GTO
WOW
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT
IS THAT SO SPECIAL?
jingle
BRRMMMBB
BE CAREFUL, SIR!
I HEAR YOU'RE THE BEST DRIVER IN THE CLUB, SO WHY DON'T YOU TAKE IT FOR A LITTLE SPIN, SIR?
GENTLE-MEN.
shff
nun?

BRRMMM
KREEEE
YES...
496.229 N-m TORQUE!
EVEN AN AIR CONDI-TIONER!
HM?
VRMM
HEY, THANKS A LOT!
THAT WAS *INCREDI-BLE!*
AOSHIMA... THERE'S A DARK SHADOW AROUND HIM THAT COMES AND GOES...
WHAT IS IT, I WON-DER?
MY BIKE WON'T START.
IS SOME-THING WRONG?
...IF IT'S ANY HELP, I'D BE GLAD TO DRIVE THE LADY HOME!
WELL...
FOR YOU, SIR... ANY-THING.

I THINK IT'S GOING TO TAKE A LITTLE WHILE.
I SHOULD BE BACK IN TIME FOR DINNER, HEY?
damn
OH, I COULDN'T LEAVE KEIICHI! I'LL STAY HERE UNTIL IT'S FIXED!
OKAY!
I'LL FIX SOME-THING REALLY SPECIAL!
STRANGE DISTRI-BUTOR CABLES ARE OKAY
THE STARTER WORKS HMM
THEY LEFT, DID THEY?
LOCK YOUR CAR OR BIKE


HEY... YOU'RE *RIGHT!* WHAT THE--
MY GUESS IS... IT'S OUT OF GAS.
LOCK YOUR CAR OR BIKE
HUH ?!
HE'S MY COUSIN.
AND HE'S GOT AN EYE FOR THE *LADIES.*
WHO DO YOU THINK'S BEEN SPREADING THOSE RUMORS ABOUT YOUR CLUB?
HE'LL STOP AT NOTHING WHEN HE'S CHASING A GIRL.
YEAH... I'D SAY RIGHT NOW HE'S LIKELY CRUISING DOWN THE SEASHORE AT SUNSET
HE SAYS IT NEVER FAILS.

OH! HOW BEAUTI-FUL!
SHE'S AS GOOD AS GOT.
OH, IT'S FINE!
MAGIC 3
I HAVE TO MAKE A BRIEF STOP, IF YOU DON'T MIND.
VROOMMM
RMM RMM RMM
DON'T YOUSE GOT YA OWN BIKE...?
...OKAY. BUT TAKE IT EASY.
YOU GOTTA LOAN ME YOUR GSX!

VR
DOWN THE SEA-SHORE, HUH? THAT'S ROUTE 12, YOU SNEAK!
N.I.T.M.C.
17
VRRRRR
NOTE REBUILT AFTER CHAPTER 12!
WELL, IT WOULD HURT MY PRIDE TO GET HIM ON THE REBOUND.
VRMMMM
BUT I WILL GET HIM

I'VE SEEN SOMETHING LIKE THIS SOMEWHERE
WHAT A PRETTY PLACE!
WOW SO YOU KNOW WHAT THIS IS HUH ?
THIS IS A LOVE HOTEL!
OH!

WELL, THEN... YOU KNOW WHY WE'RE HERE.
nuh?
okay...
WHOOSH
WHUMP
WHUMP

NO WOMAN CAN EVER REALLY LOVE YOU IF YOU RE LIKE THAT
YOU MUSTN T BE SO PUSHY
O Vortex, Descend Before Me!
WHY YOU LITTLE TEASE! YOU GOT IN THE CAR DIDN T YOU?
Bear Him Away to Contemplate His Error!
FZZAK ZZKK

THAT'S HIS CAR--BUT HOW AM I GOING TO FIND THE RIGHT ROOM?!
HOTEL
!!
VWHIPP
SKRRRRRT
HEY uh WAIT
VWHIPP
VWHIPP

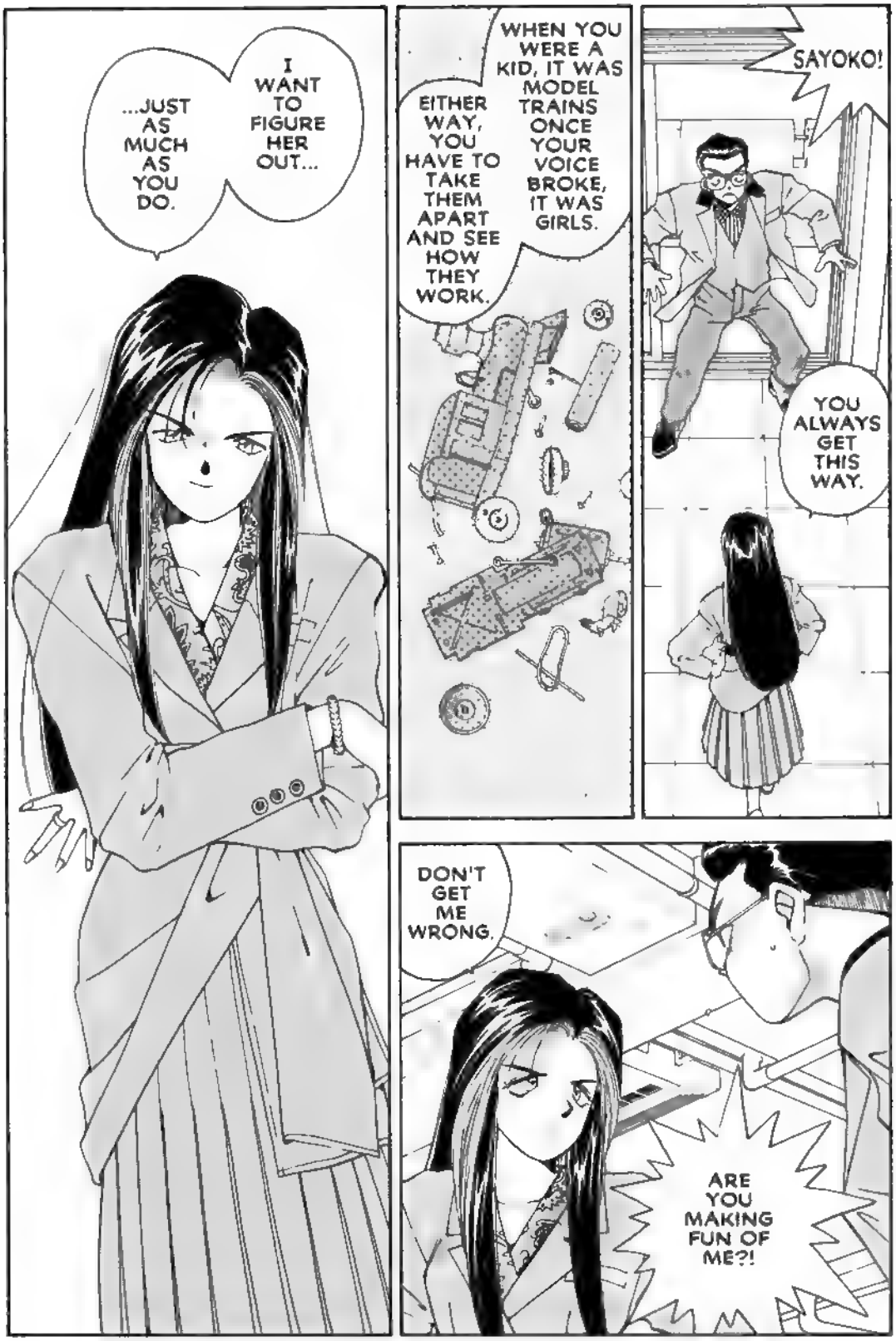
BEEYAAA!!!
VWEEEEEE
WHAM
BELL-DANDY!!
...SHE RAN OUT OF POWER.
I DIDN'T GET THAT LAST PART.
shiver shiver
SHE GOT SO ANGRY...

CHAPTER 21

Exposing a Secret

URD TOO? HEY, NOW!
YES, THEY ARE
OH THEY RE WITH HIM.
BELL-DANDY... HMM...

VWEEEEEE
WHOOSH
WHAP
DID I JUST DREAM ALL THAT.?
TOSHI-YUKI
IS SHE A MAGICIAN?
AN ESPER?
MAYBE IT'S SAFER TO THINK I'M JUST CRAZY...
HEY...
...WOMAN OF MYSTERY, ISN'T SHE...?


I WANT TO FIGURE HER OUT...
...JUST AS MUCH AS YOU DO.
WHEN YOU WERE A KID, IT WAS MODEL TRAINS ONCE YOUR VOICE BROKE, IT WAS GIRLS.
EITHER WAY, YOU HAVE TO TAKE THEM APART AND SEE HOW THEY WORK.
SAYOKO!
YOU ALWAYS GET THIS WAY.
DON'T GET ME WRONG.
ARE YOU MAKING FUN OF ME?!

HEY, WE GOTTA GO!
THERE IT IS AGAIN... o.o
SOME KIND OF BAD OMEN.
mMmm
...WE'RE BOUND TO CATCH SOME-THING.
IF WE STICK TO THEM LIKE GLUE...
COMING!
YAAA!
boing!

hahh
huhh
hahh
WHERE'D SHE COME FROM ?!
WHATCHA DOING?
huh?
HEY.
!!
HA! AH HA HA HA!
ER, UH... NOTH- ING, REALLY!
TELL ME! TELL ME!!
CONFESS!
TRASH
YAAA!
I SAID, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

AARGH!
WELL, FORTUNATELY, THIS CAMPUS HAS A PARANORMAL PHENOMENA CLUB. WE'LL JUST TAKE THIS TAPE TO THEM, AND
YOU THINK SO?
ISN'T THERE SOMETHING A LITTLE STRANGE ABOUT THE WAY SHE GETS AROUND?
haa
huhh
hahh
I THINK WE LOST HER.
hahh
hff
THAT'S THE OLDEST MISTAKE IN THE BOOK!
WHAT ?!
THERE'S NO TAPE IN HERE!

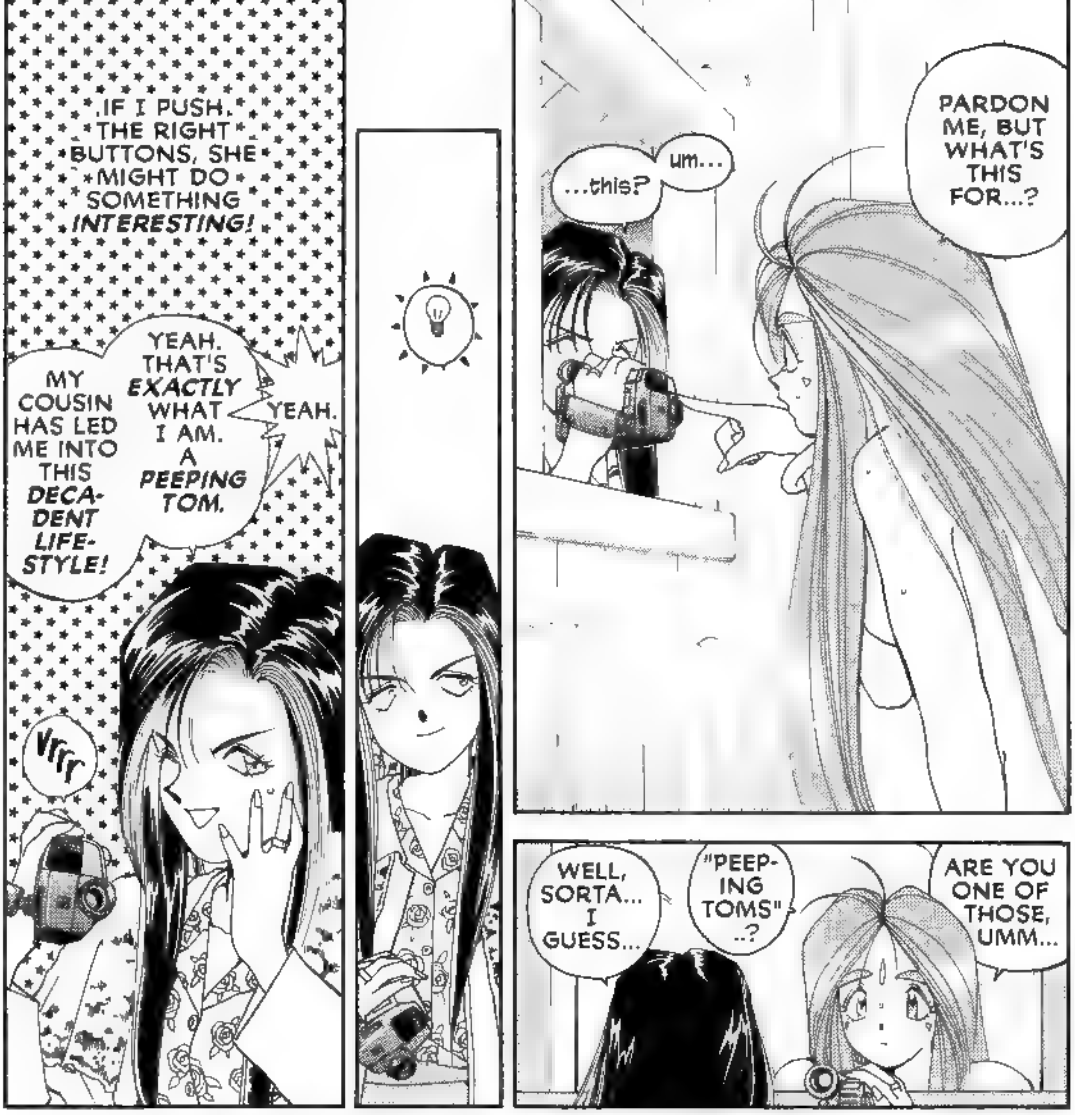
fwipp
WHAT'S THAT YOU'VE GOT THERE?
SAYOKO AND THAT AOSHIMA SCHMUCK WERE UP TO NO GOOD.
SO I DID THE OLD URD *SLEIGHT-OF-HAND.*
NOW, IF THEY WERE JUST AFTER *ME*, I'D HAVE A LITTLE FUN WITH THEM, BUT...
bye
I THINK THEY'RE OUT TO GET YOU AND BELL.
JEEZ, NOT *AGAIN!*

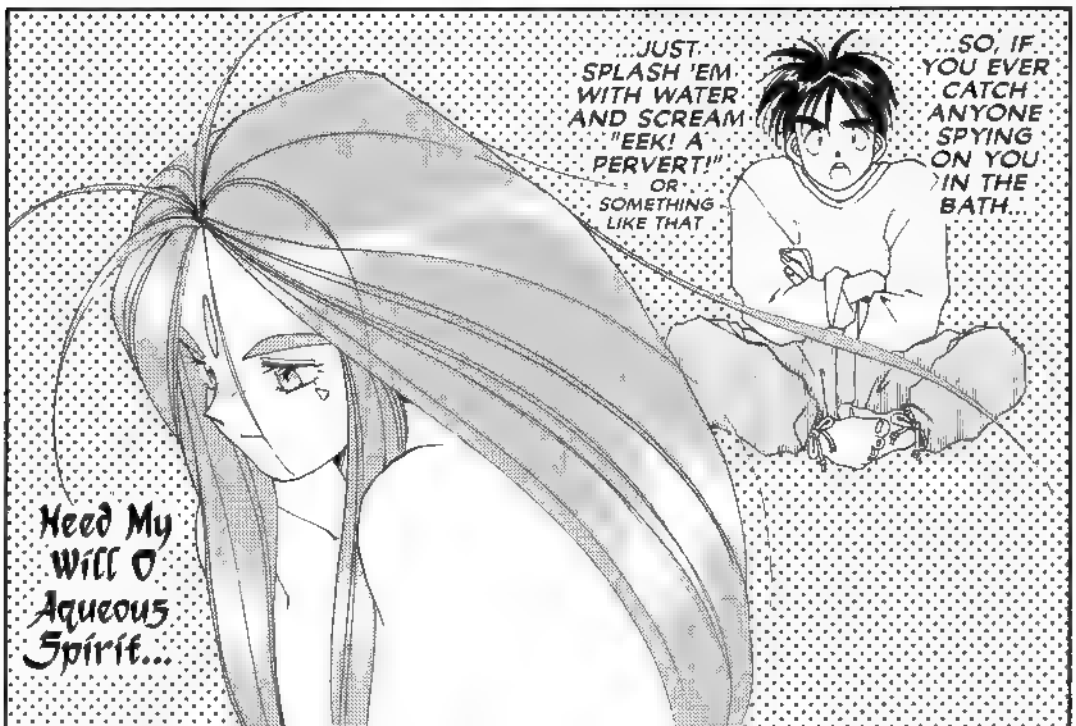
I DON'T WANT THEM CAUSING YOU GUYS TROUBLE
THAT'S MY JOB
SO JUDGING BY PAST EVENTS
IT SEEMS LIKE WHENEVER SHE GETS CONFRONTED BY SOME SORT OF CRISIS WEIRD THINGS START TO HAPPEN
HM?!
LOOK MY FATHER HAS AN ABSOLUTE FIT IF I DON'T DRESS NICELY WHEN I GO OUT SPYING OR NOT
BY THE WAY DO YOU ALWAYS DRESS UP LIKE THAT WHEN YOU'RE SPYING ON SOMEONE?
YEAH. THAT WOULD EXPLAIN WHAT HAPPENED TO ME
BUT EVEN SO...

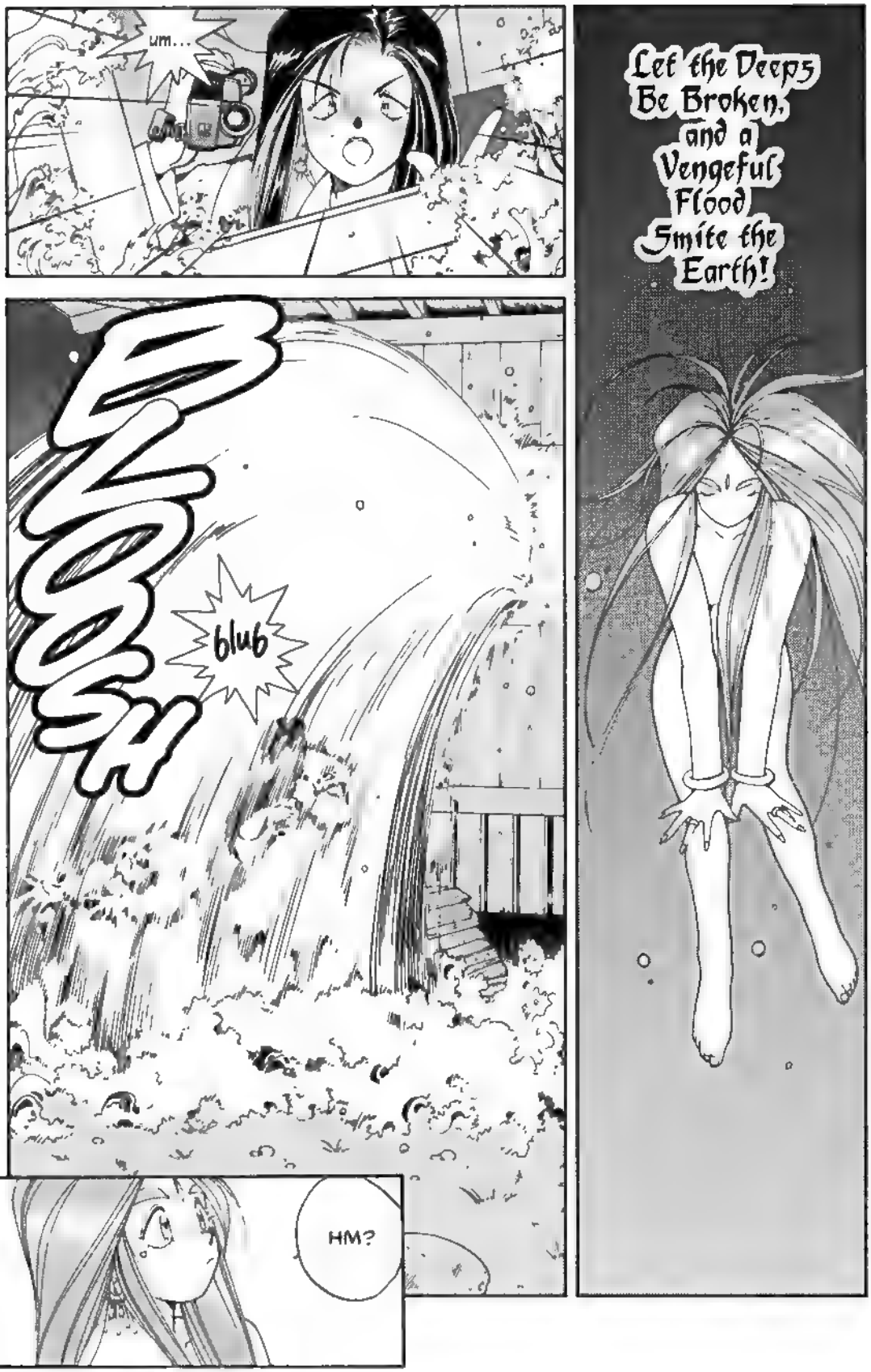
IN HERE"
THIS WAY!
sniff sniff

IT'S... IT'S...!
HUH!
I...I CAN'T TAKE IT!!
HER *BODY!* ITS GOLDEN *SHEEN!*
HER SKIN... LIKE GRADE-A *WHIPPED CREAM!*

ANY-
WAY,
THANK
YOU,
GOD!!
I'M
RUNNING
OUT OF
SUPERLATIVES
HERE
IT'S
IT'S
DO YOU
THINK
SHE'S
HEARD
YOU
YET?!
boing!
OKAY
GIVE
ME
THAT!
YAAA!


PARDON ME, BUT WHAT'S THIS FOR...?
um...
...this?
ARE YOU ONE OF THOSE, UMM...
"PEEPING TOMS"...?
WELL, SORTA... I GUESS...
IF I PUSH THE RIGHT BUTTONS, SHE MIGHT DO SOMETHING *INTERESTING!*
YEAH.
YEAH. THAT'S *EXACTLY* WHAT I AM. A *PEEPING TOM.*
MY COUSIN HAS LED ME INTO THIS *DECADENT LIFESTYLE!*
Vrrr


...SO, IF YOU EVER CATCH ANYONE SPYING ON YOU IN THE BATH...
...JUST SPLASH 'EM WITH WATER AND SCREAM "EEK! A PERVERT!" OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT
Heed My Will O Aqueous Spirit...


um...
Let the Deeps Be Broken, and a Vengeful Flood Smite the Earth!
SPLOOSH
blub
HM?

EEK! A PERVERT!!
OH.. I FOR-GOT

VERT!!
SHAKE SHAKE
THE ECHO!
THE ECHO!

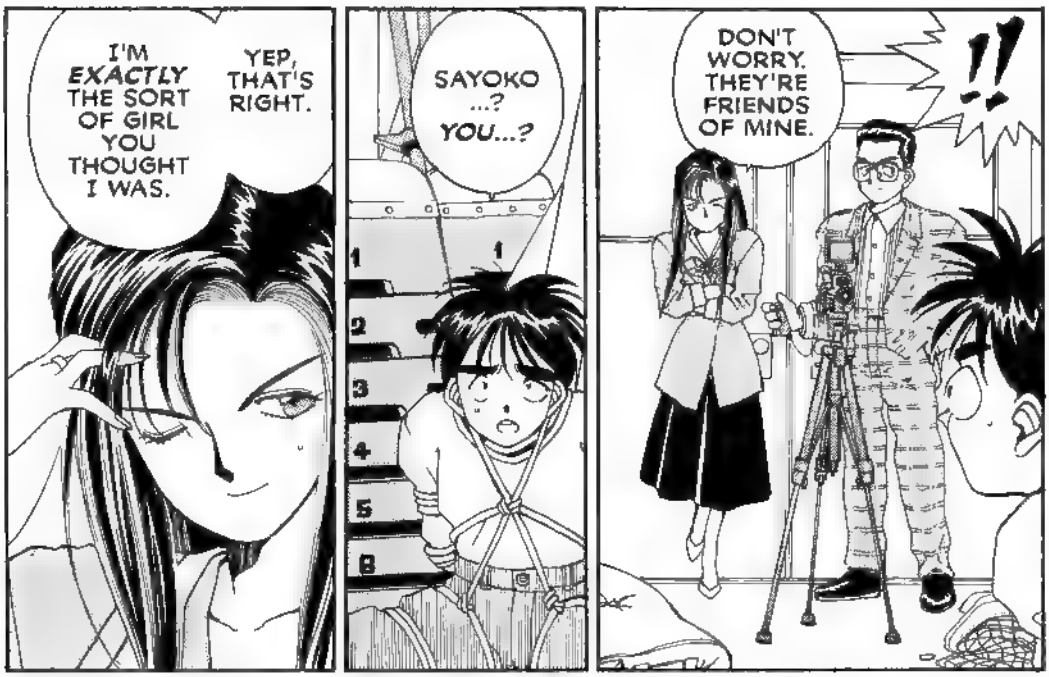
THE NEXT DAY
IT'S STILL ECHOING FOR ME. IS IT STILL ECHOING FOR YOU?
A LITTLE.

BELLDANDY. WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO INTRODUCE YOU TO A LITTLE SOMETHING CALLED COMMON SENSE!
...
..BUT...
LOOK WHO'S TALK-ING

WHAT'S SOMETHING I CAN DO TO BE MORE... *RUTHLESS?*
THE CAMERA WAS RUINED. THIS SOFT APPROACH ISN'T GETTING US ANY-WHERE.
WHAM
HAVE YOU SEEN KEIICHI?
NOPE
...HI.
MEAN-WHILE, IN THE OLD GYM...
HE'S... HE'S *VANISHED!*

"RED-HAIRED DEVIL" NAKANO... VICE-PRESIDENT
PRESI-DENT OF THE S&M CLUB!
I'M "NICE MIDDLE" YOSHINO,

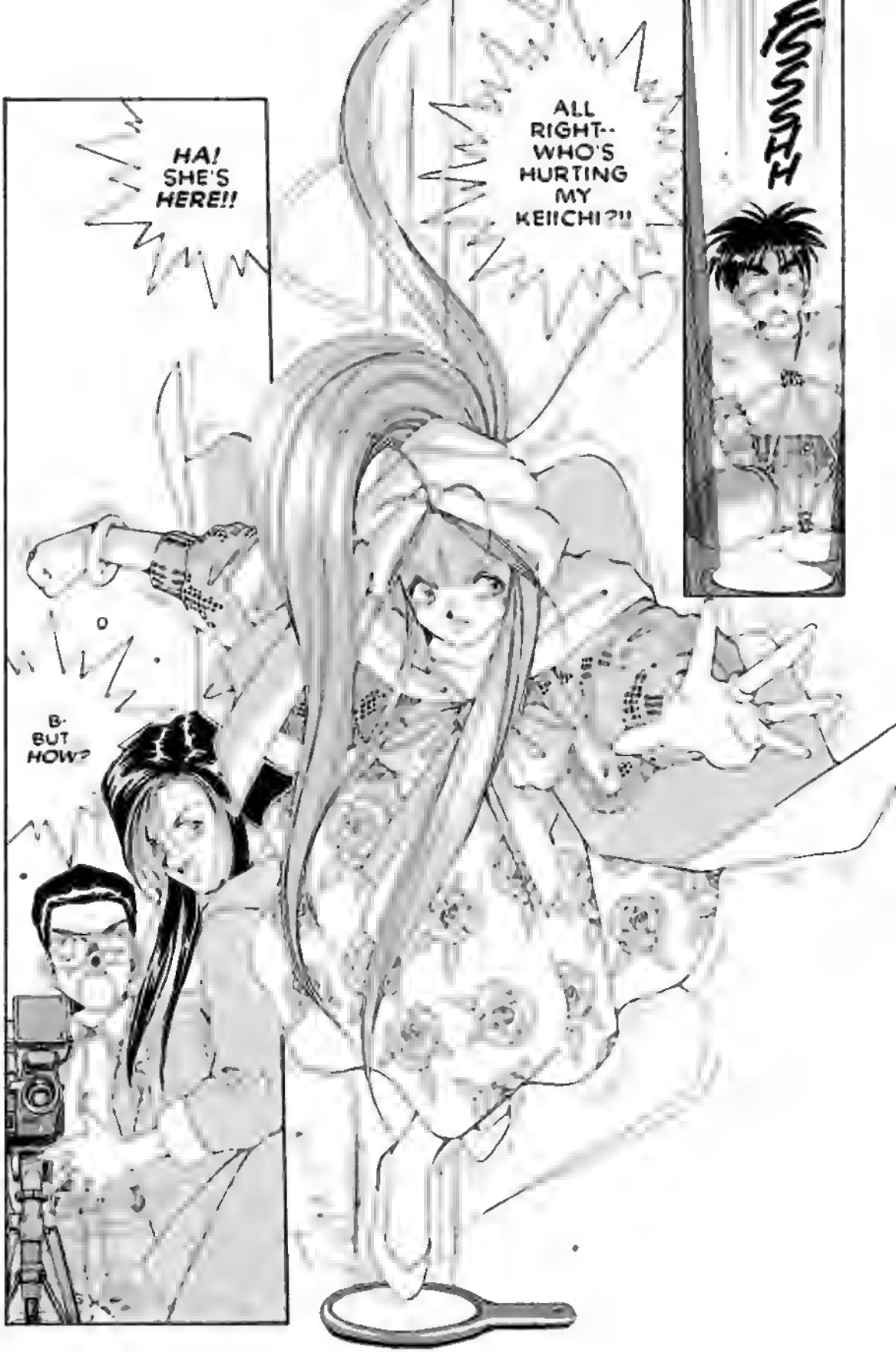
THERE'S A NEW GAME WE LIKE TO PLAY, YOU SEE...
WOW! WE'VE GOT A S&M CLUB, TOO?!


I'M EXACTLY THE SORT OF GIRL YOU THOUGHT I WAS.
YEP, THAT'S RIGHT.
SAYOKO ...? YOU...?
DON'T WORRY. THEY'RE FRIENDS OF MINE.
!!

I SAW SOMEONE CARRYING HIM OVER TO THE OLD GYM
HE WAS INTRICATELY BOUND
REALLY ?!
THUMP
HUH? YOU'RE INTO S&M?
YOU OUGHTA GET SOME BETTER FRIENDS
OUT ON CAM-PUS...
THANK YOU !!
NO PROB-LEM!
OTOKICHI CALLING..

AHEE!!
KEIICHI ?!
DAMMIT! THEY'RE TRYING TO TRAP HER!
SHE IS? OH, GOOD WORK!
YES?
SHWAP
NOW... FORGET ALL ABOUT EQUALITY!
urk

FSSH!!!
FWAK
AT THE GYM, A SCENE OF SHOCK-ING CRUELTY...
KYAAA!
A MIR-ROR!
whine!
HA HA HA HA! KNEEL, DOGS! TASTE MY WHIP!


HSSSSH
ALL RIGHT-- WHO'S HURTING MY KEIICHI?!!
HA! SHE'S HERE!!
B- BUT HOW?

BELL-DANDY! YOU'VE GOT TO STOP THEM!
eh?
eh?
?!
BOY... TOOK YOU LONG ENOUGH.
OH YES, MISTRESS! LET ME FEEL THE DELICIOUS *STING* OF YOUR LASH!
MORE CHASTISE-MENT, PLEASE.
THE CAMERA *MUST* HAVE CAUGHT HER SECRET!
GET THE TAPE-- LET'S *GO!*
HURRY, BELLDANDY! IF THEY FIND OUT ABOUT YOU, WE WON'T BE ABLE TO *STAY TOGETHER ANYMORE!*

SKREEEEECH
TO THE PARA-NORMAL CLUB!!
AT LAST WE'LL KNOW!
I CAN'T WAIT TO WATCH IT!
A MAXWELL'S DEMON STONE!!
twip
WE. WE WON'T ...?

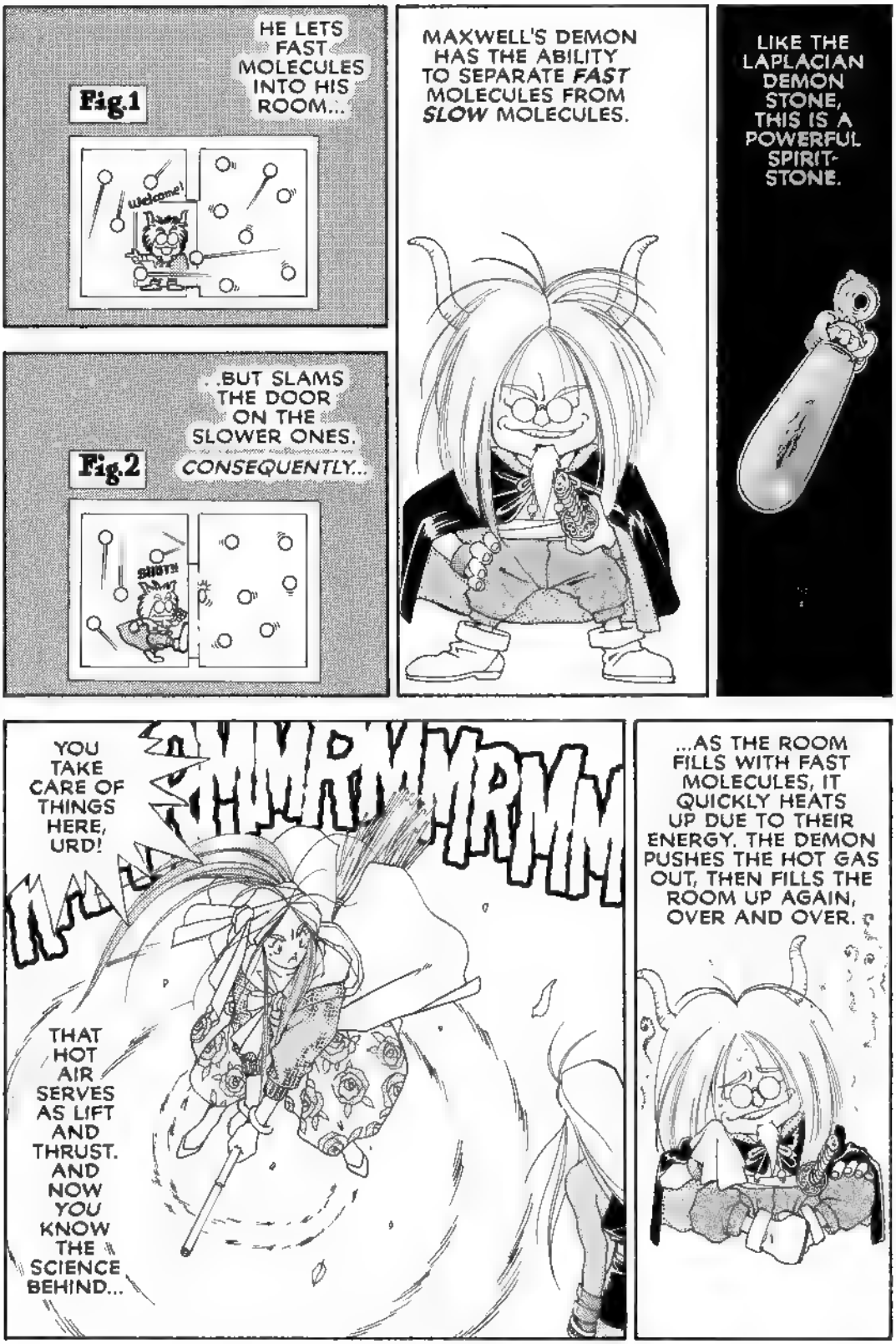
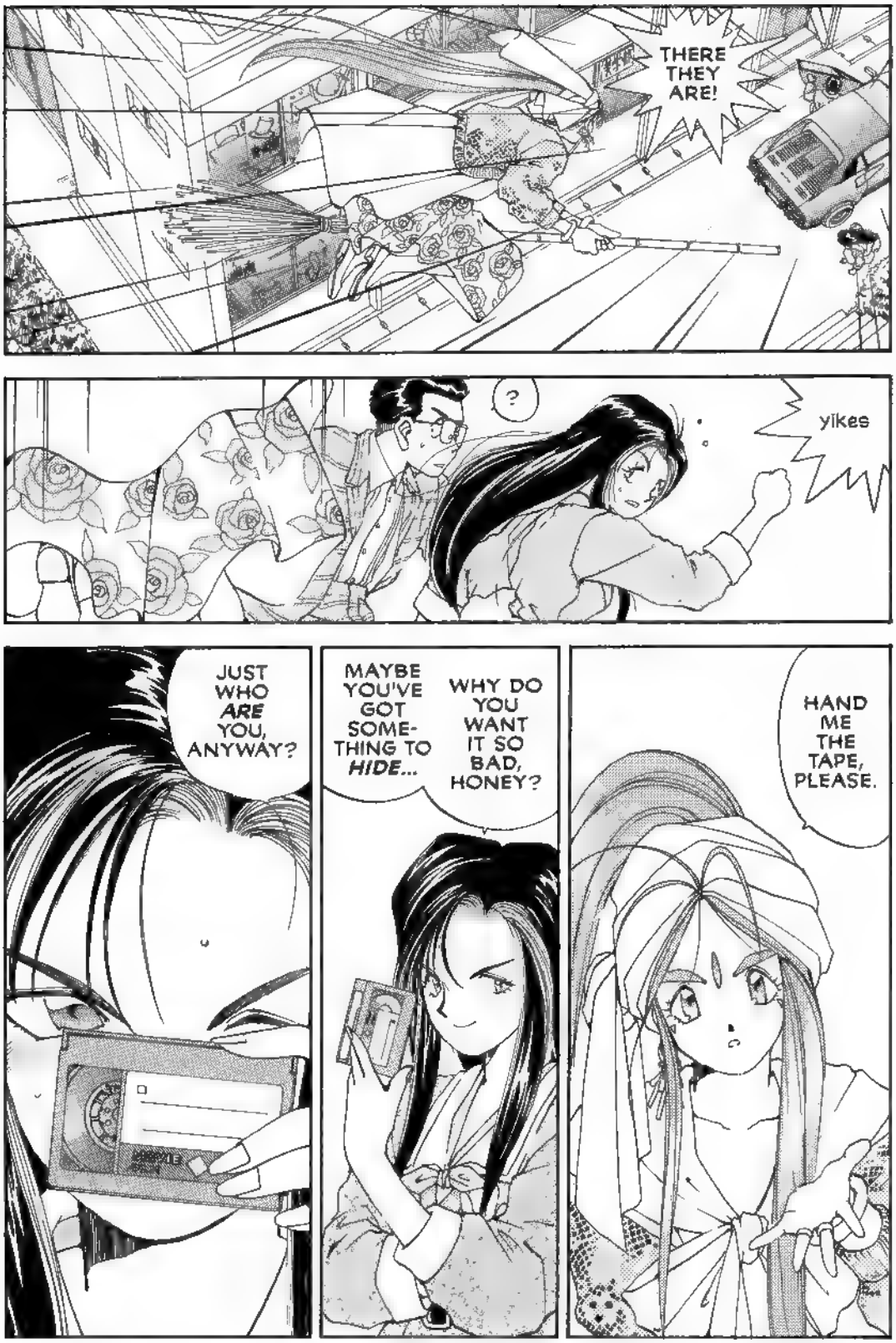


Fig.1
HE LETS FAST MOLECULES INTO HIS ROOM...
welcome!
Fig.2
...BUT SLAMS THE DOOR ON THE SLOWER ONES. CONSEQUENTLY...
SHUT!
MAXWELL'S DEMON HAS THE ABILITY TO SEPARATE *FAST* MOLECULES FROM *SLOW* MOLECULES.
LIKE THE LAPLACIAN DEMON STONE, THIS IS A POWERFUL SPIRIT-STONE.
YOU TAKE CARE OF THINGS HERE, URD!
MRMMMRMM
THAT HOT AIR SERVES AS LIFT AND THRUST. AND NOW YOU KNOW THE SCIENCE BEHIND...
...AS THE ROOM FILLS WITH FAST MOLECULES, IT QUICKLY HEATS UP DUE TO THEIR ENERGY. THE DEMON PUSHES THE HOT GAS OUT, THEN FILLS THE ROOM UP AGAIN, OVER AND OVER.

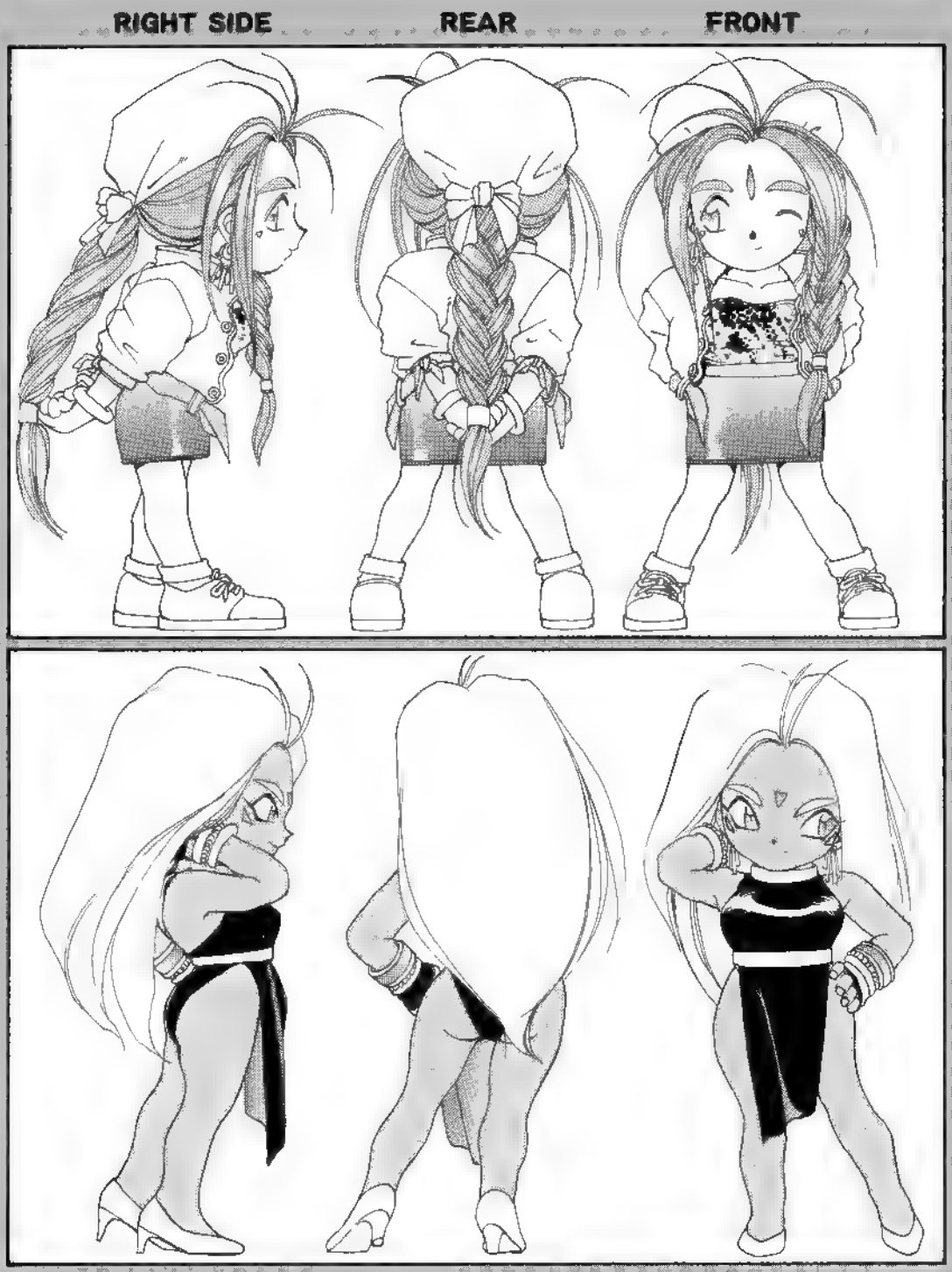
...BELL-DANDY'S MAXWELL'S DEMON-PROPELLED AERIAL BROOM!
WHOOSH!

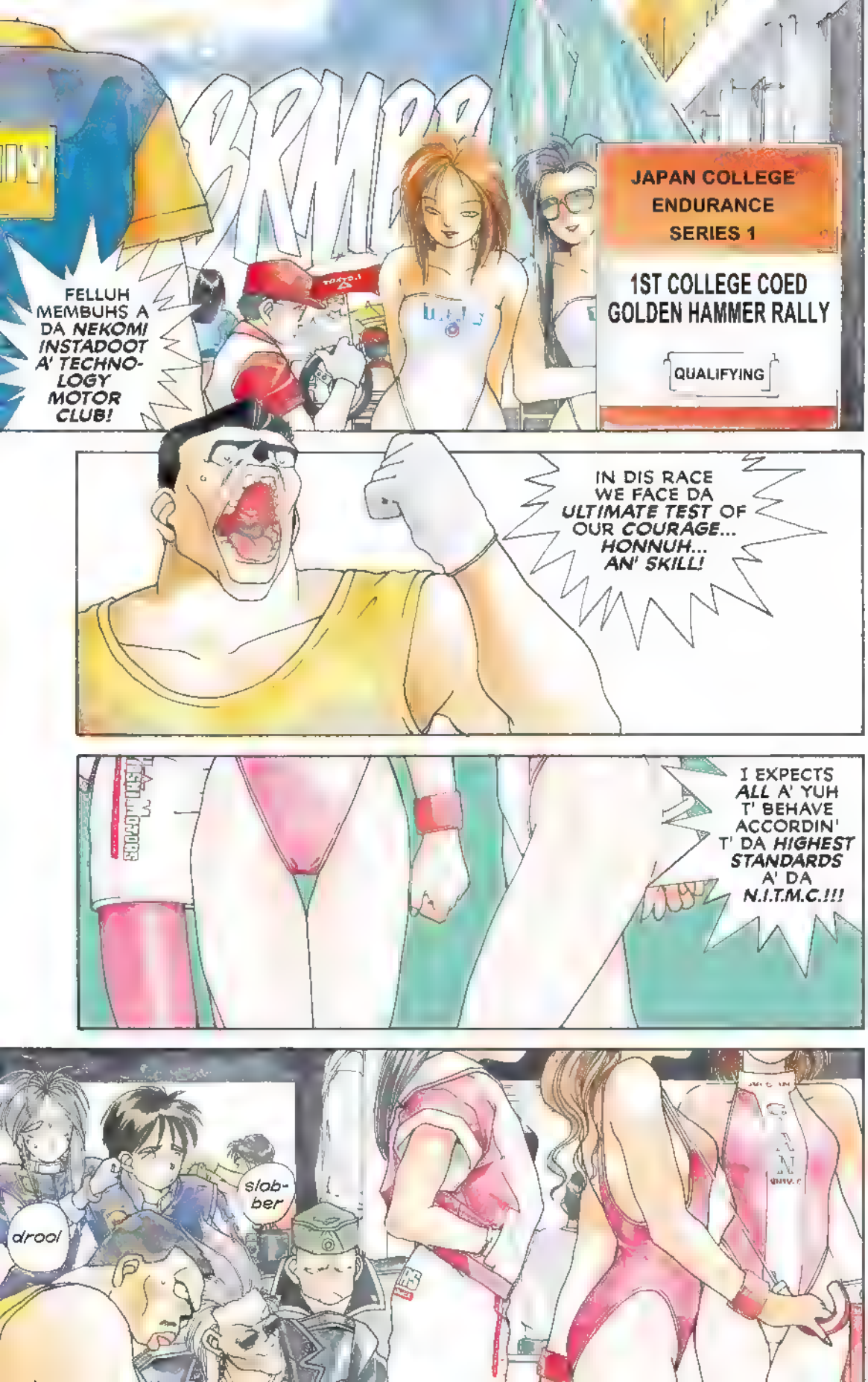

THERE THEY ARE!
?
yikes
JUST WHO *ARE* YOU, ANYWAY?
MAYBE YOU'VE GOT SOME-THING TO *HIDE*...
WHY DO YOU WANT IT SO BAD, HONEY?
HAND ME THE TAPE, PLEASE.

WHO AM I...? NO ONE SPECIAL...
I'M JUST A...
YESS! SAY IT!!
...A GODDESS.
...
WOOOOOO
...
GOD-DESS... RIGHT...
IF YOU'RE GONNA *LIE*, TRY TO MAKE IT A *LITTLE* MORE BELIEVABLE! HA! HA!

THIS TIME, I SWITCHED THEIR TAPES.
COMMITTEE FOR UNDER-GRADUATE INVESTI-GATION INTO THE PARA-NORMAL
I GAVE THEM ONE OF MY FAVORITE SHOWS.
HA!HA!HA!
BUT...
BUT I AM...
Sshhsss
DON'T WORRY TOO MUCH.
Shwoop!
THIS IS UNBELIEV-ABLE!
WELL THIS ISN'T BORING.
WHY? WHY ?!!
THAT "OCTOPUS" IS CLEARLY A MAN IN AN OCTOPUS SUIT.
HELP ...?

SPECIAL BONUS!
CONCEPT DRAWINGS FOR THE "MINI-BELLDANDY" AND "MINI-URD" DOLLS




FELLUH MEMBUHS A DA NEKOMI INSTADOOT A' TECHNO-LOGY MOTOR CLUB!
JAPAN COLLEGE ENDURANCE SERIES 1
1ST COLLEGE COED GOLDEN HAMMER RALLY
QUALIFYING
IN DIS RACE WE FACE DA ULTIMATE TEST OF OUR COURAGE... HONNUH... AN' SKILL!
I EXPECTS ALL A' YUH T' BEHAVE ACCORDIN' T' DA HIGHEST STANDARDS A' DA N.I.T.M.C.!!!
drool
slob-ber

ANYWAYS... AT LEAST GIVE DIS YUH BEST *SHOT*... ...*uh*, YA KNOW...?

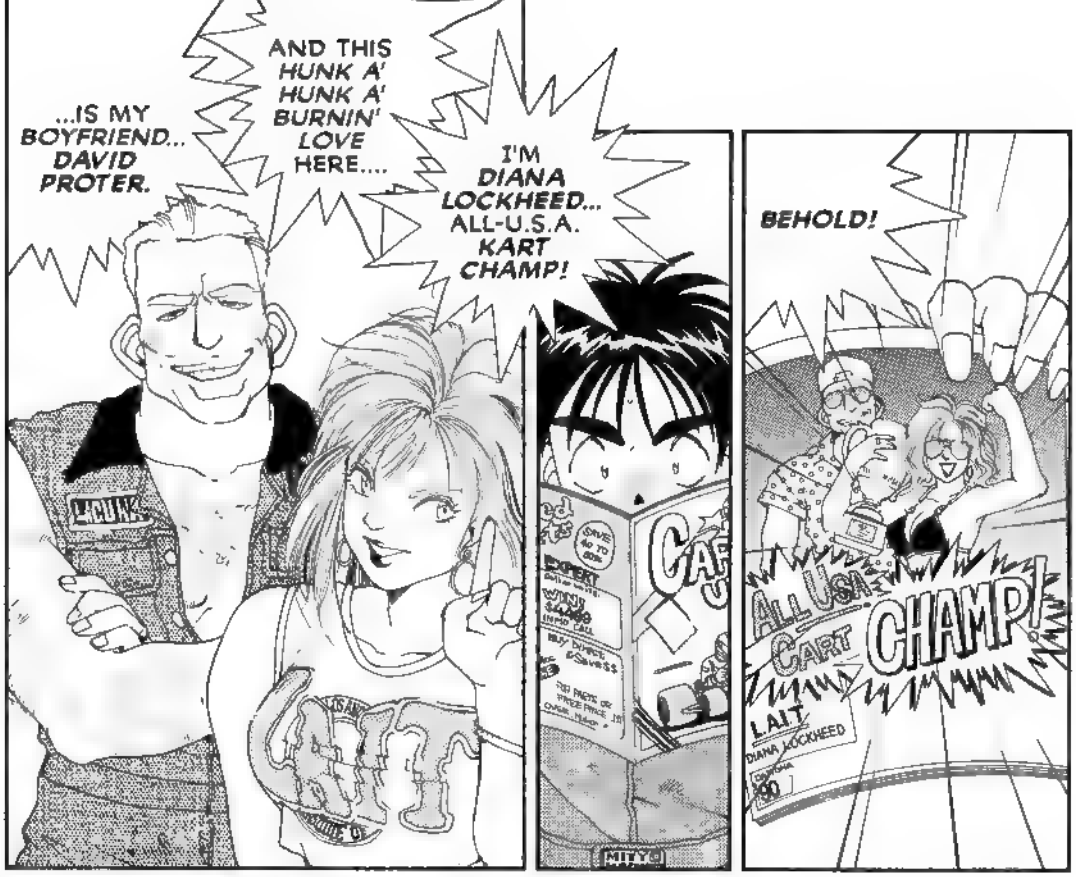
CHAPTER 22

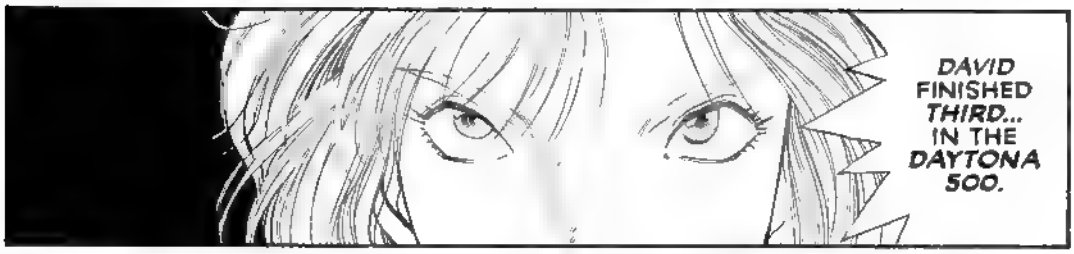
Who Will Win the Champion Flag?

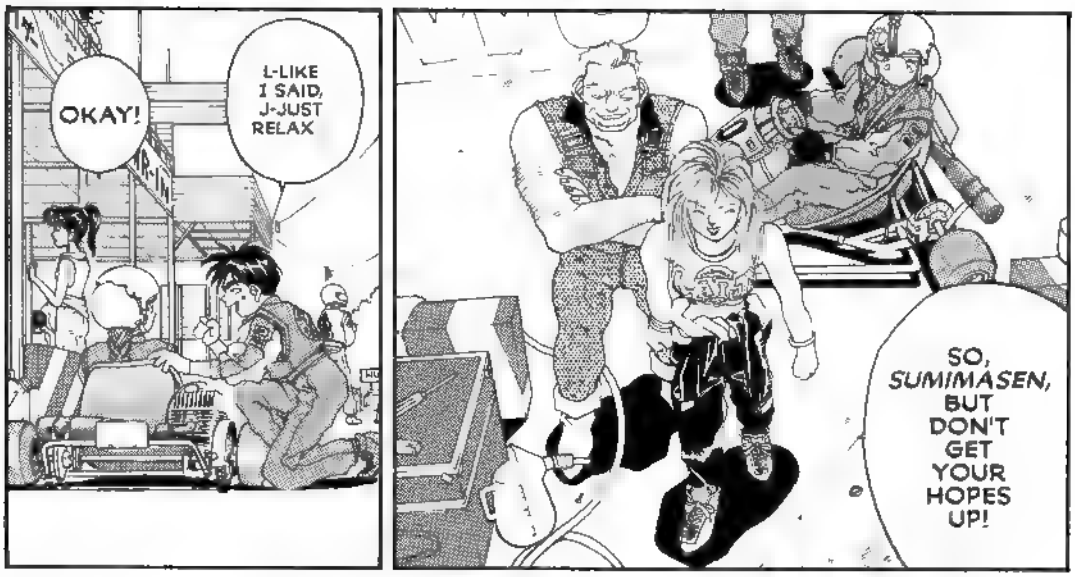
Kei-ichi, ichi, win the feat! If you lose you'll be dead meat!
HMM I KIN ALMOS' SEE EM FROM HERE, ALMOS'
MEBBE OVA HERE
HEY, TAMIYA YOU RE KIDDING ABOUT OUR BUDGET RIGHT?
'CAUSE DA WHOLE ANNUAL CLUB BUDGET IS RIDIN' ON YOUR RACE!
HOW'D THAT HAP-PEN?
HUH?
AN' DEN I'LL CHEW YA UP!
AN' CONSUME YUH, BUDDY!

(1) MORISATO LOSES.
(2) BECOMES DEAD MEAT, CONSUMED, ETC.
SEM-PAI?
WELL, WELL, WELL...
I'LL BE *VERY* UPSET IF YOU *DON'T* LOSE, MY FRIEND.
(3) BELLDANDY DEFENDS HIM.
(4) BUT MORISATO, FEELING HIS MANHOOD THREATENED, REJECTS HER.
(5) BELLDANDY FEELS BAD.
(6) I CATCH HER ON THE REBOUND.
(7) I GET BORED WITH HER A FEW WEEKS LATER, AND MOVE ON TO THE NEXT GIRL.
IT'S THE *PERFECT* PLAN!!

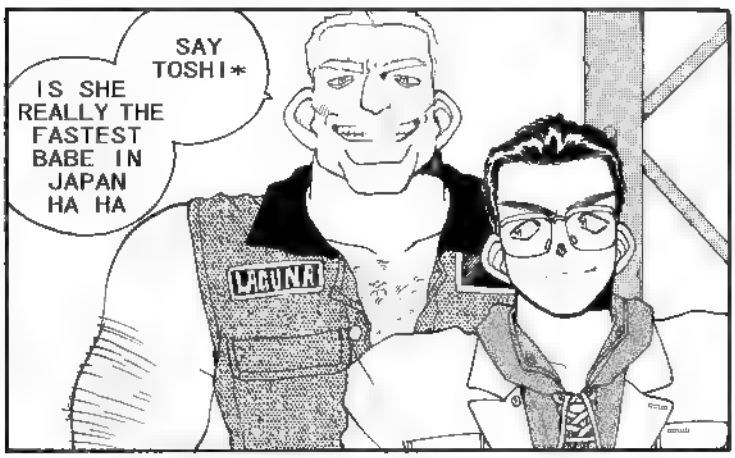
JUST RELAX, BELLDANDY. EVERYBODY ELSE IN THIS RACE IS AN AMATEUR, TOO.
OKAY!
ALL ENTRIES IN THE WOMEN'S QUALIFIER, PROCEED TO THE STARTING LINE!
WATASHI-TACHI WA SHIROUTO DE WA ARIMA-SEN!*
HAHAHA
I SAID WE'RE FROM L.A. TECH...
!!
...AND AMATEURS, WE AIN'T!
I MEAN, ISN'T!
I MEAN, ARE NOT.
*SHE'S SPEAKING JAPANESE!


...IS MY BOYFRIEND... DAVID PROTER.
AND THIS HUNK A' HUNK A' BURNIN' LOVE HERE....
I'M DIANA LOCKHEED... ALL-U.S.A. KART CHAMP!
BEHOLD!
ALL USA CART CHAMP!
L.AIT
DIANA LOCKHEED
DAYTONA
500


DAVID FINISHED THIRD... IN THE DAYTONA 500.

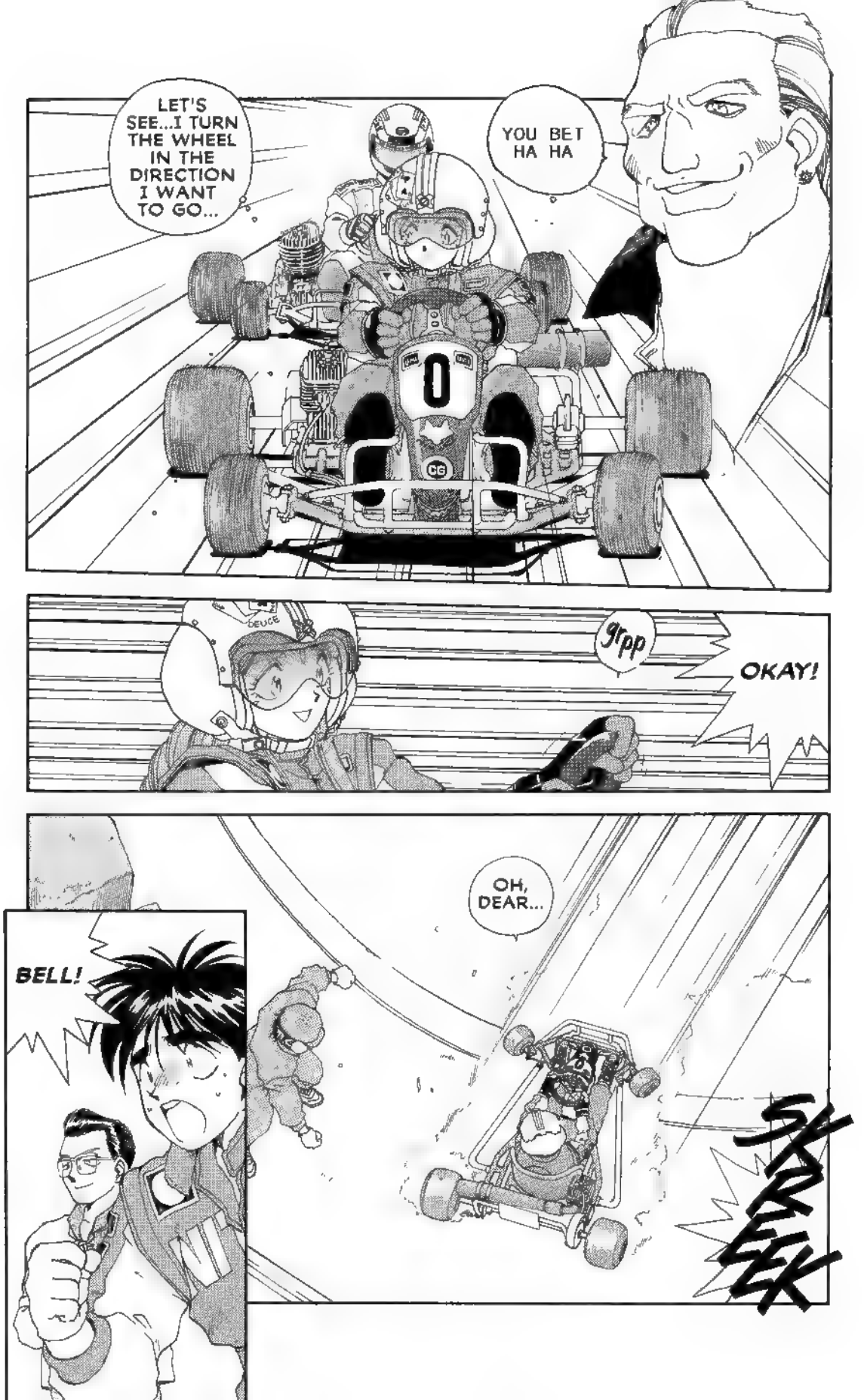

OKAY!
L-LIKE I SAID, J-JUST RELAX
SO, SUMIMASEN, BUT DON'T GET YOUR HOPES UP!

GO!
B-B-BRMMM
THE QUALIFYING ROUNDS ARE DIVIDED INTO FOUR GROUPS, "A" THROUGH "D." TIMES IN THE ROUNDS DETERMINE STARTING POSITIONS FOR THE FINAL RACE.

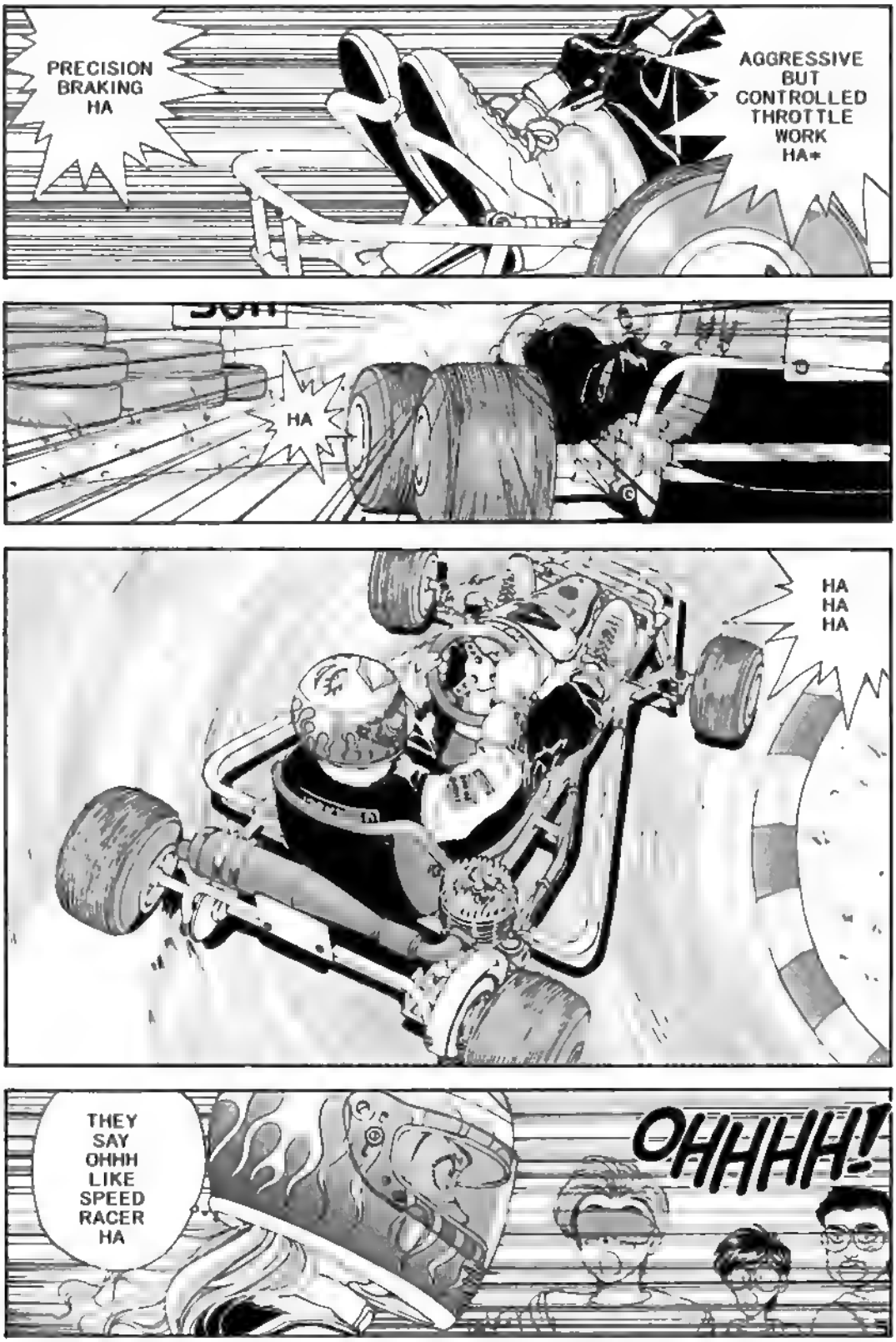


WHY YES DAVE THOSE TWO ARE THE UNOFFICIAL CHAMPIONS OF THE JAPANESE GO KART CIRCUIT
IS THAT NOT WHAT BROUGHT YOU TO JAPAN HA HA

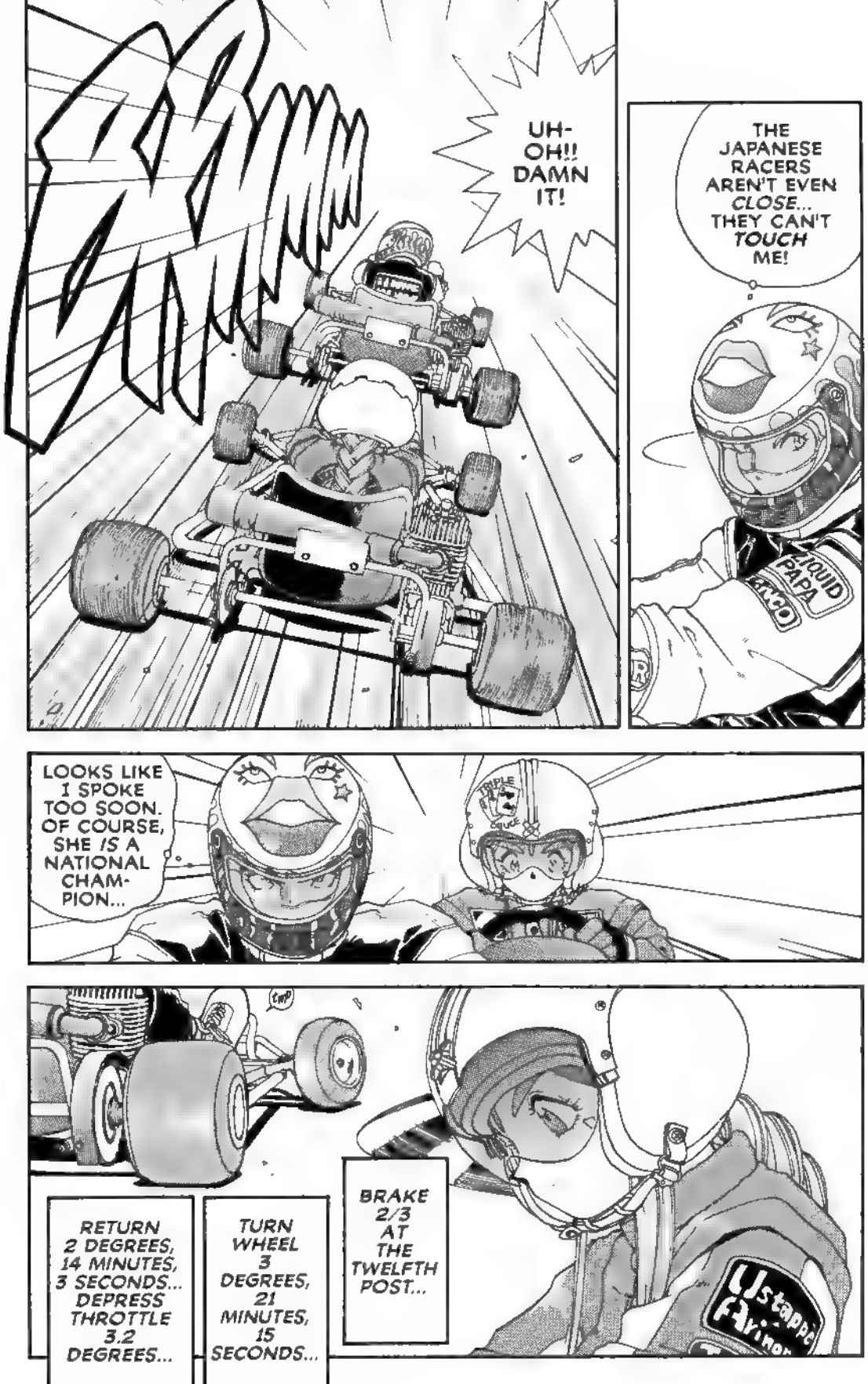
*THEY'RE SPEAKING ENGLISH!


LET'S SEE...I TURN THE WHEEL IN THE DIRECTION I WANT TO GO...
YOU BET HA HA
0
DEUCE
grpp
OKAY!
OH, DEAR...
BELL!
SKREEK

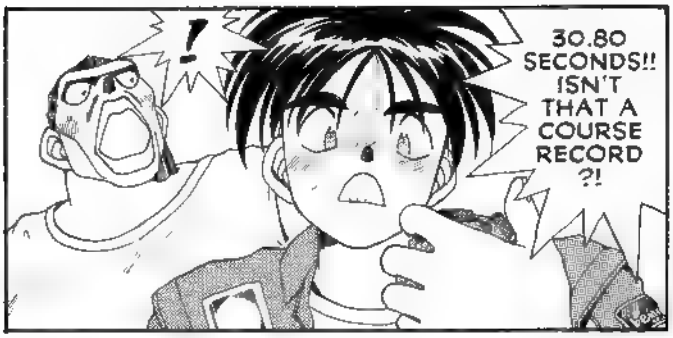
*JAPANESE, AGAIN.

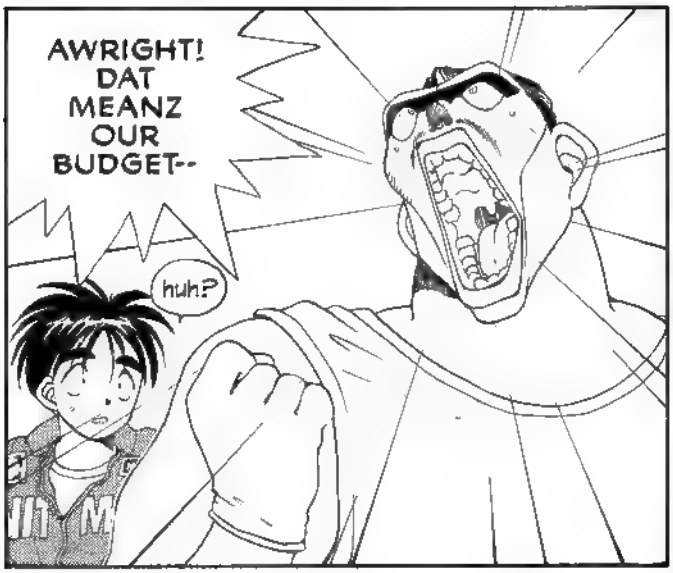


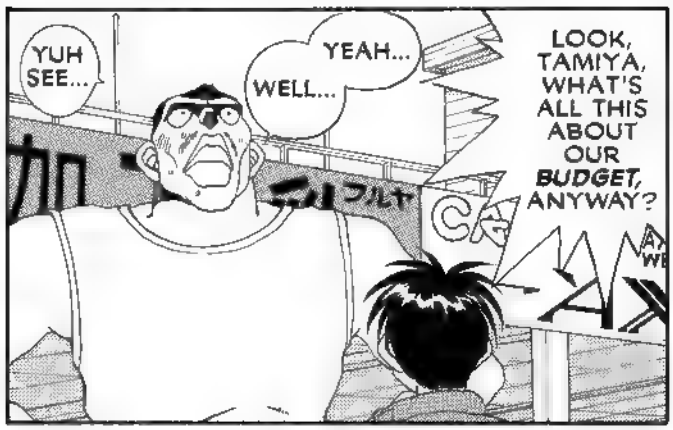
*AAAAAAND, ENGLISH AGAIN.

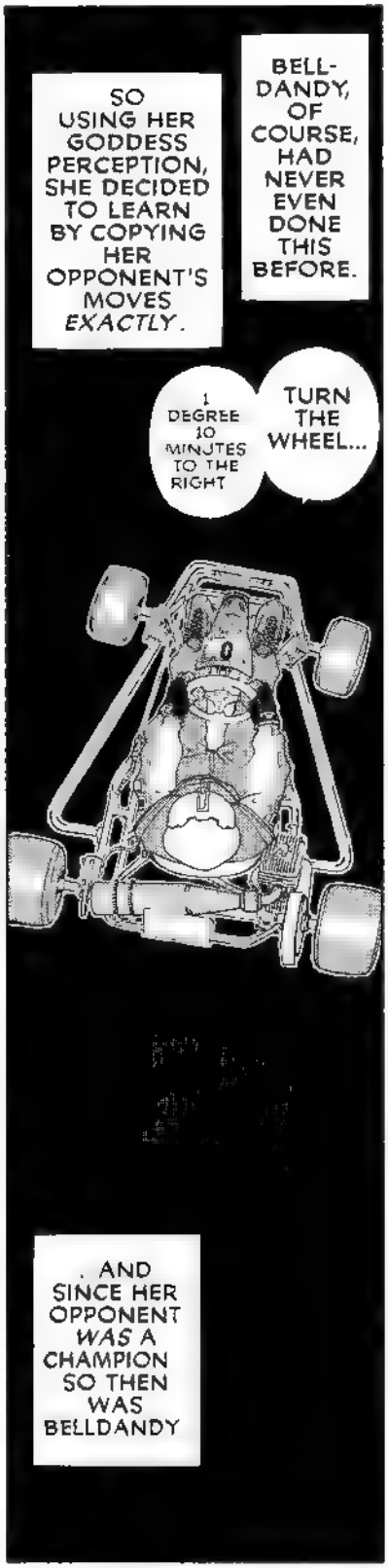

UH-OH!! DAMN IT!
THE JAPANESE RACERS AREN'T EVEN CLOSE... THEY CAN'T TOUCH ME!
LIQUID PAPA
LOOKS LIKE I SPOKE TOO SOON. OF COURSE, SHE IS A NATIONAL CHAM-PION...
TRIPLE
CMP
RETURN 2 DEGREES, 14 MINUTES, 3 SECONDS... DEPRESS THROTTLE 3.2 DEGREES...
TURN WHEEL 3 DEGREES, 21 MINUTES, 15 SECONDS...
BRAKE 2/3 AT THE TWELFTH POST...

klik
SEIKO


!
30.80 SECONDS!! ISN'T THAT A COURSE RECORD ?!

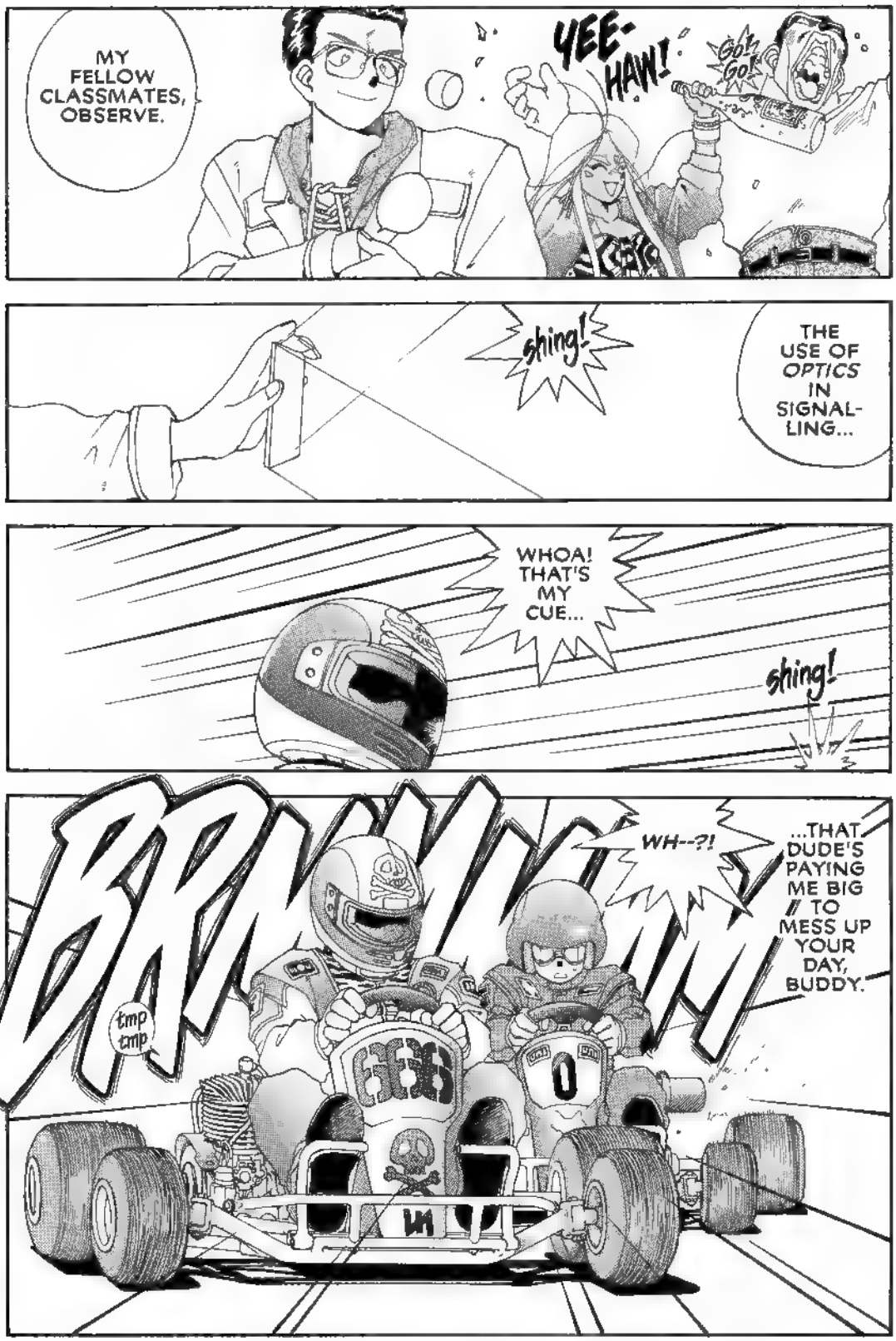

AWRIGHT! DAT MEANZ OUR BUDGET--
huh?

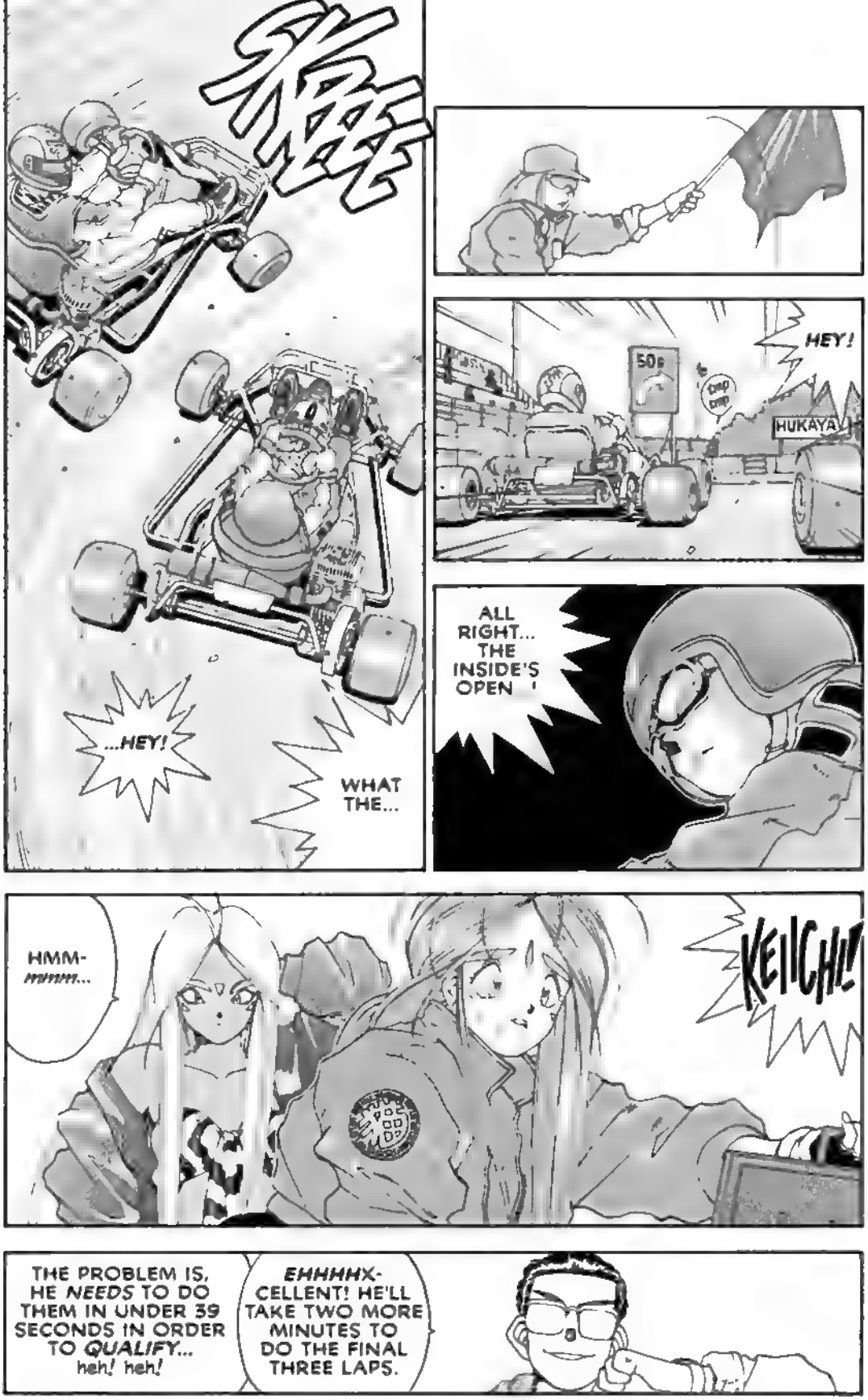

YUH SEE...
YEAH...
WELL...
LOOK, TAMIYA, WHAT'S ALL THIS ABOUT OUR *BUDGET*, ANYWAY?


BELL-DANDY, OF COURSE, HAD NEVER EVEN DONE THIS BEFORE.
SO USING HER GODDESS PERCEPTION, SHE DECIDED TO LEARN BY COPYING HER OPPONENT'S MOVES *EXACTLY*.
TURN THE WHEEL...
1 DEGREE 10 MINUTES TO THE RIGHT
. AND SINCE HER OPPONENT *WAS* A CHAMPION SO THEN WAS BELLDANDY

OUR BUDGET ?!
KEIICHI ...?
YEH.
YOU SPENT IT *ALL* ON THIS RACE?!
THE MEN'S QUALIFIER'S STARTING!!
...DEM THINGS AIN'T *CHEAP,* YA KNOW...
30000 YEN F' DA *JUMP-SUITS...*
T' BREAK IT DOWN SPECIFIC...
20000 YEN F' *SNACKS...*
10000 YEN F' DA *WIND-BREAKERS...*
TRIAL HEAT
NOW, GETTIN' US INTA DA ACTUAL *GO-KART...*
STOP!!

TAMP
AS WITH THE WOMEN'S QUALIFIER, FOUR ROUNDS ARE RUN...
I'VE STILL GOT SOME-THING TO PROVE.
BRRM
SHOULD KEIICHI COME IN BEHIND IN THIS PRELIMINARY, HIS TEAM MIGHT NOT MAKE THE RACE AT ALL!
SOME-THING ABOUT THE BUD-GET?
WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT?
I...
...CAN'T ALWAYS BE COUNTING ON BELL-CHAN TO BAIL ME OUT OF TROUBLE.


MY FELLOW CLASSMATES, OBSERVE.
YEE-HAW!
GO! GO!
shing!
THE USE OF OPTICS IN SIGNAL-LING...
WHOA! THAT'S MY CUE...
shing!
BRRM
WH--?!
...THAT DUDE'S PAYING ME BIG TO MESS UP YOUR DAY, BUDDY.
tmp tmp


SKREE
...HEY!
WHAT THE...
HEY!
50p
CHIP CHIP
HUKAYA
ALL RIGHT... THE INSIDE'S OPEN !
HMM- mmmm...
KEICHI!
THE PROBLEM IS, HE NEEDS TO DO THEM IN UNDER 39 SECONDS IN ORDER TO QUALIFY... heh! heh!
EHHHHX-CELLENT! HE'LL TAKE TWO MORE MINUTES TO DO THE FINAL THREE LAPS.

KEIICHI! WHAT WILL IT TAKE TO IGNITE YOUR FLAMING AFTERBURNERS OF VICTORY?!
HURRAH!
...DESPERATE TIMES ...DESPERATE MEASURES!
ZIP-

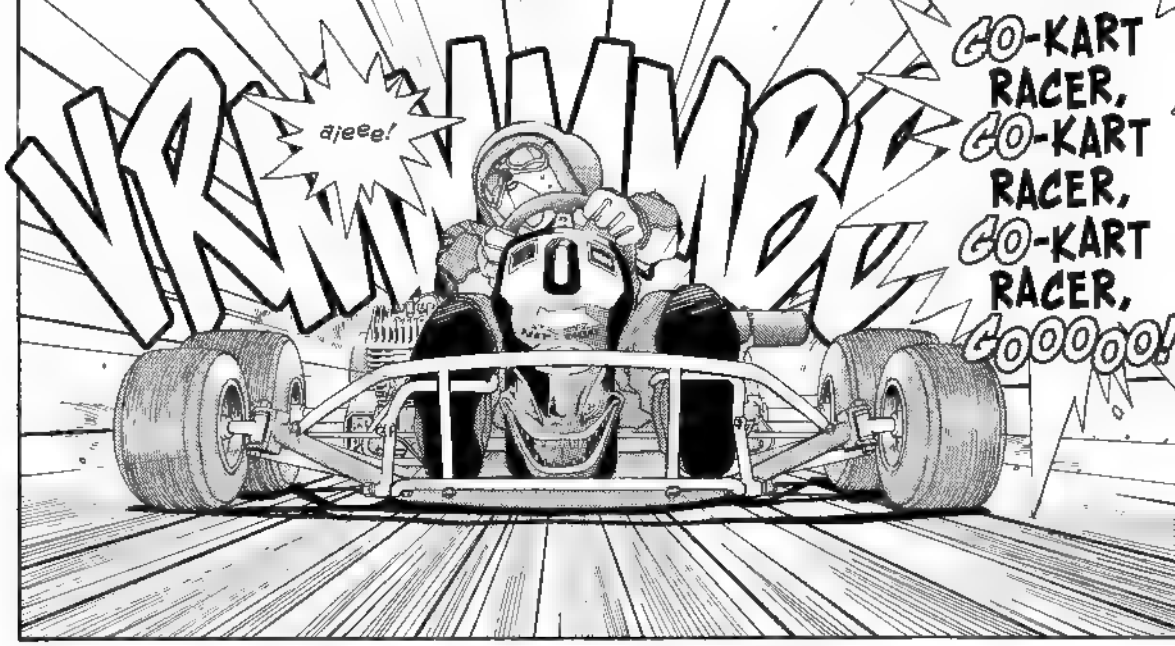
WHAT DIDN'T WORK?
HM?
THAT'S WEIRD... IT DIDN'T WORK.
?
BRMMM
...
BRMMMM
SKRASCH
HAW! WHUDDA MESS!
WHY DID THEY BOTH JUST CRASH ?
UH-OH... I SPOKE TOO SOON!

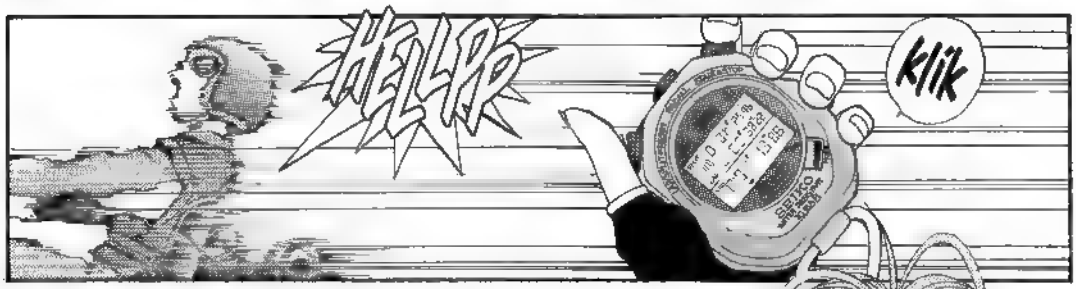
WHAT'S THAT WOBBLE ...?!
HE'D NEED DIVINE INTER-VENTION TO SAVE HIM NOW!
PER-FECT!
KEIICHI'S IN TROUBLE!
REMAIN
THE...
ALL RIGHT... I'VE HAD MY FUN.
URD!
...THE CRASH KNOCKED OUT MY ALIGN-MENT!

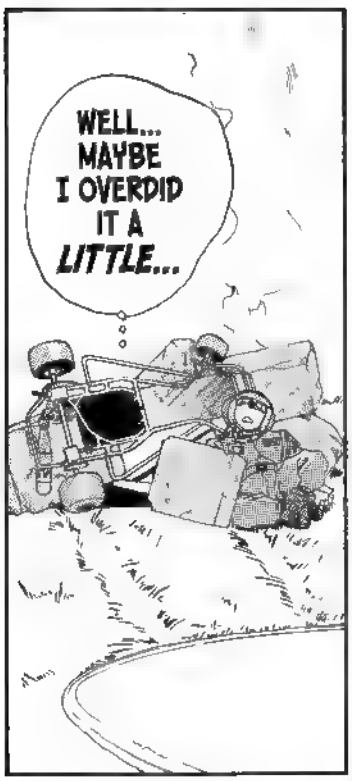
URD, NO!!
And Let Thyself Run Wild and Free!
Calm Thy Raging Heart, and Race Forward, Forward, O'er the Road Ahead!
O Wild Rampaging Steed... Let Thy Wounded Forelegs Be Healed!
WHAT DID YOU SAY?!
WHAT TH-?!
HEY!!
HEH, HEH!

HERE I COME...
...I'M A DEMON ON WHEELS!!!

W-WHAT THE HELL...?!
KRRR-OW!
aieee!
I'M GAININ' ON YA, SO YOU BETTER LOOK ALIVE!
NO ONE CAN SURVIVE CORNERING AT SPEEDS LIKE THAT!
...LIKE IT WAS NUTHIN'...!!
H-HE PASSED ME...
HAW! HAW!
GACK!


VRRMMMBB
aieee!
GO-KART RACER, GO-KART RACER, GO-KART RACER, GOOOOO!


HELP!
klik


WELL... MAYBE I OVERDID IT A LITTLE...

HE FINISHED IN 38.22 SECONDS !!
DA BUDGET'S SAVED!!

CHAPTER 23

What a Miracle

THROUGH GOOD OLD-FASHIONED HARD WORK AND COSMIC FORCE, THE NEKOMI TEAM HAS MADE IT THIS FAR...
ALL CARS, TAKE YOUR PLACES ON THE GRID!
IT'S THE EVENT YOU'VE ALL BEEN WAITING FOR!
BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!
THE QUALIFIERS ARE OVER... NOW IT'S THE...
HOO-RAH!
WIN!
FINAL RACE
SPONSORED BY KIRIN LAGER. WHO REMINDS DRIVERS TO DRINK RESPONSIBLY
SINCE WE MADE IT THIS FAR, WE'RE A CINCH TO WIN!
COMING !!
BELL-DANDY! GET CHANGED AND GET OVER HERE, QUICK!!
ACTUALLY, WE BARELY SQUEAKED THROUGH...
...AS IN SEVERE SHOCK...
AMP... AN ELECTRI-CAL TERM...
I'M FEELIN' AMPED!

BUT WE'LL *NEED* ALL THE LUCK WE CAN GET...
NO . I *BEG* YOU!
SO NOW I'M GONNA *KICK UP MUH SKOITS* LIKE A *CHEER-LEADER!*
GO! GO! 'RAY! GO!
IT CAN'T BE REAL!
NUTHIN' *AMPS* ME LIKE DA PROSPECT OF *DEFYIN' FATE!*
GRUNT! I'M FEELIN' AMPED *TOO,* MORISATO!
WE WOULDN'T HAVE TO "DEFY FATE" IF YOU HADN'T SPENT ALL OUR *BUDGET* ON THIS
THE NEKOMI TECH MOTOR CLUB MAZDA T2000 OFF-ROAD *SUPER*-SPECIAL!
...RACING IN *THIS* THING!
NITTO
4WD

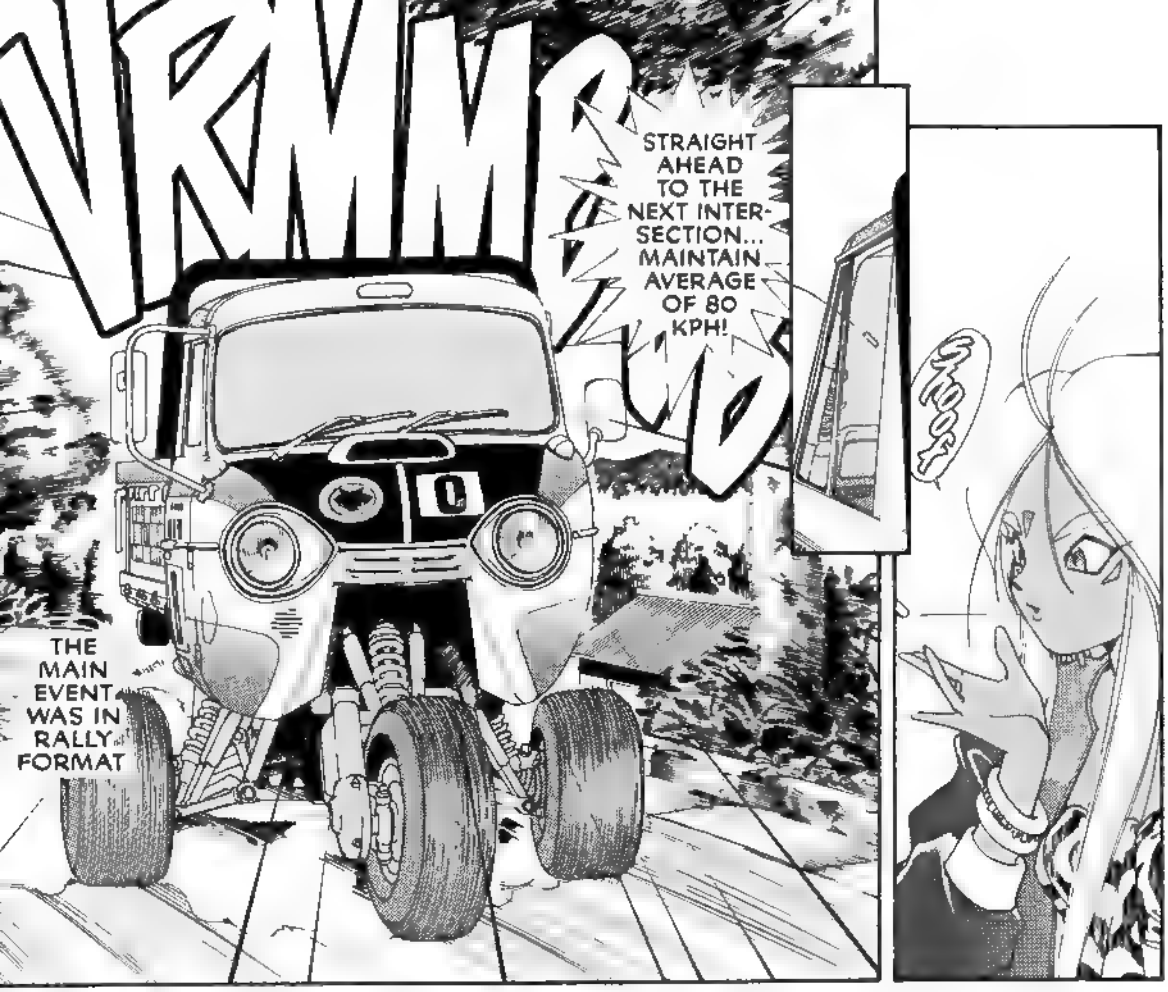
DRIVE
WHY, THIS BABY'S GOT THREE-WHEEL DRIVE!
DUAL-CYLINDER DISC BRAKES WITH SINTERED PUCKS!
SOUNDS IMPRESSIVE, DOESN'T IT?
OH, YE OF LITTLE FAITH!
AND HEIGHT!
INDEPENDENT SUSPENSION WITH GAS-CARTRIDGE SHOCKS!
A SUPER-LIGHTWEIGHT FIBERGLASS RESIN BODY!
VANITY MIRROR ON PASSENGER-SIDE SUNVISOR!!
50W CAR STEREO... WITH CASSETTE !!!
RACK-AND-PINION STEERING!!
BEHOLD... THE FEA-TURES!
...IT'S FLAW-LESS!
MY GOD...
COIN HOLDER ON DASH-BOARD!

NOT IF YOU'RE... HEH, HEH... LOCKED IN.
THERE'S NO DANGER I'LL SEE YOU, BABY.
No PeePing
SHOE!
ODA
HMM?
klik
klik
ALL TEAMS WARM UP YOUR ENGINES!
FIVE MIN-UTES TO GREEN FLAG.
OOPS! I'D BETTER HURRY!
chik

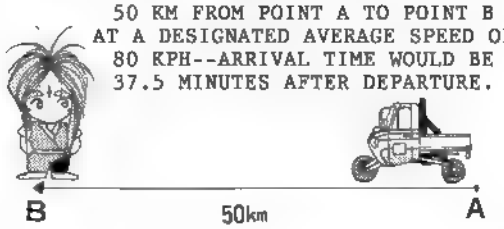
JEEZ, WHAT'S TAKING HER SO LONG? IF SHE DOESN'T GET HERE BY STARTING TIME, WE'LL BE DISQUALI-FIED!
IT...IT WON'T OPEN!!
WEST SIIIIIDDDE!
IN THE POLE POSITION... THE LOCKHEED-PROTER TEAM FROM L.A.I.T.!
SHELBY
. .WHO LEFT EVEN MY CHAMPION BOYFRIEND IN THE DUST...
HMMM... RACING AGAINST KEIICHI MORISATO...
...I'M STARTING TO THINK HE'S A REAL MAN!

THE DOOR WAS STUCK... I HAD TO USE THE MIRROR.
SORRY!
snivel! WH-WHAT AM I GONNA DO? THE R-RACE'S STARTING ALREADY!
haa
haa
...AND STARTING IN 25TH PLACE, TEAM NUMBER ZERO FROM N.I.T.!
BUT EVEN BELLDANDY DID NOT FORESEE THE LINGERING EFFECTS OF HER TELEPORTATION...
1st RALLY GILDEN HAMA
...GOTTA PUNCH YOUR TIME-CARD...
'SCUSE ME...
OKAY!
haa
CAB
gasp!

gasp!
IT CAN'T *BE!* HOW'D SHE GET OUT?!
NAH! TIME FOR DIRTY PLAN *B!*
DIRTY PLAN...? *THAT* WON'T DO!
MAYBE I SHOULD JUST PLAY *FAIR?!*
ONLY *I'M* ALLOWED TO MAKE DIRTY PLANS!



THE CHALLENGE IS TO REACH EACH CHECKPOINT EXACTLY AT THE DESIGNATED TIME.


50 KM FROM POINT A TO POINT B AT A DESIGNATED AVERAGE SPEED OF 80 KPH--ARRIVAL TIME WOULD BE 37.5 MINUTES AFTER DEPARTURE.
B
50km
A

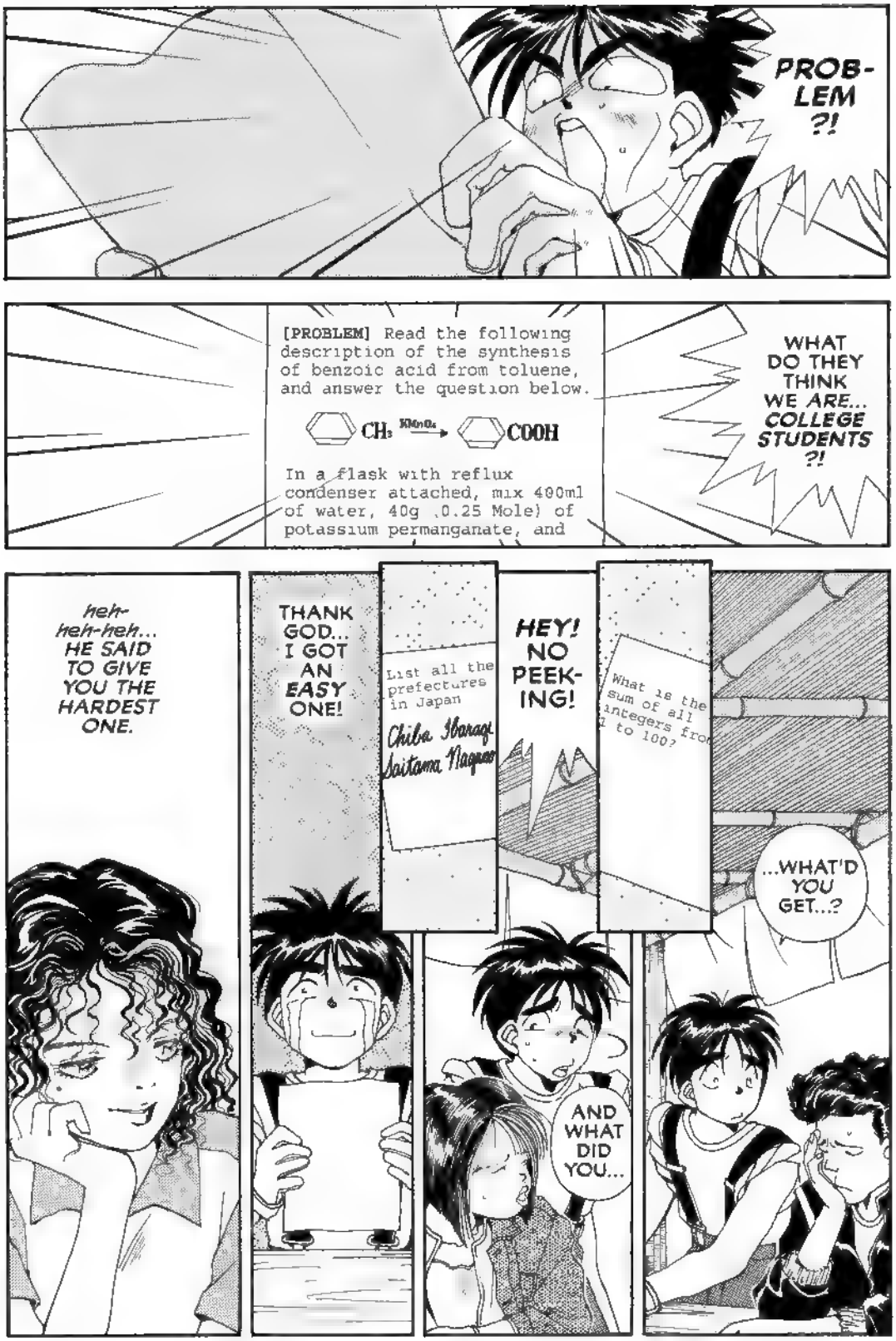
A RALLY IS NOT A CHALLENGE OF PURE SPEED. INSTEAD, YOU FOLLOW A MAP THAT SHOWS AVERAGE SPEEDS BETWEEN POINTS.

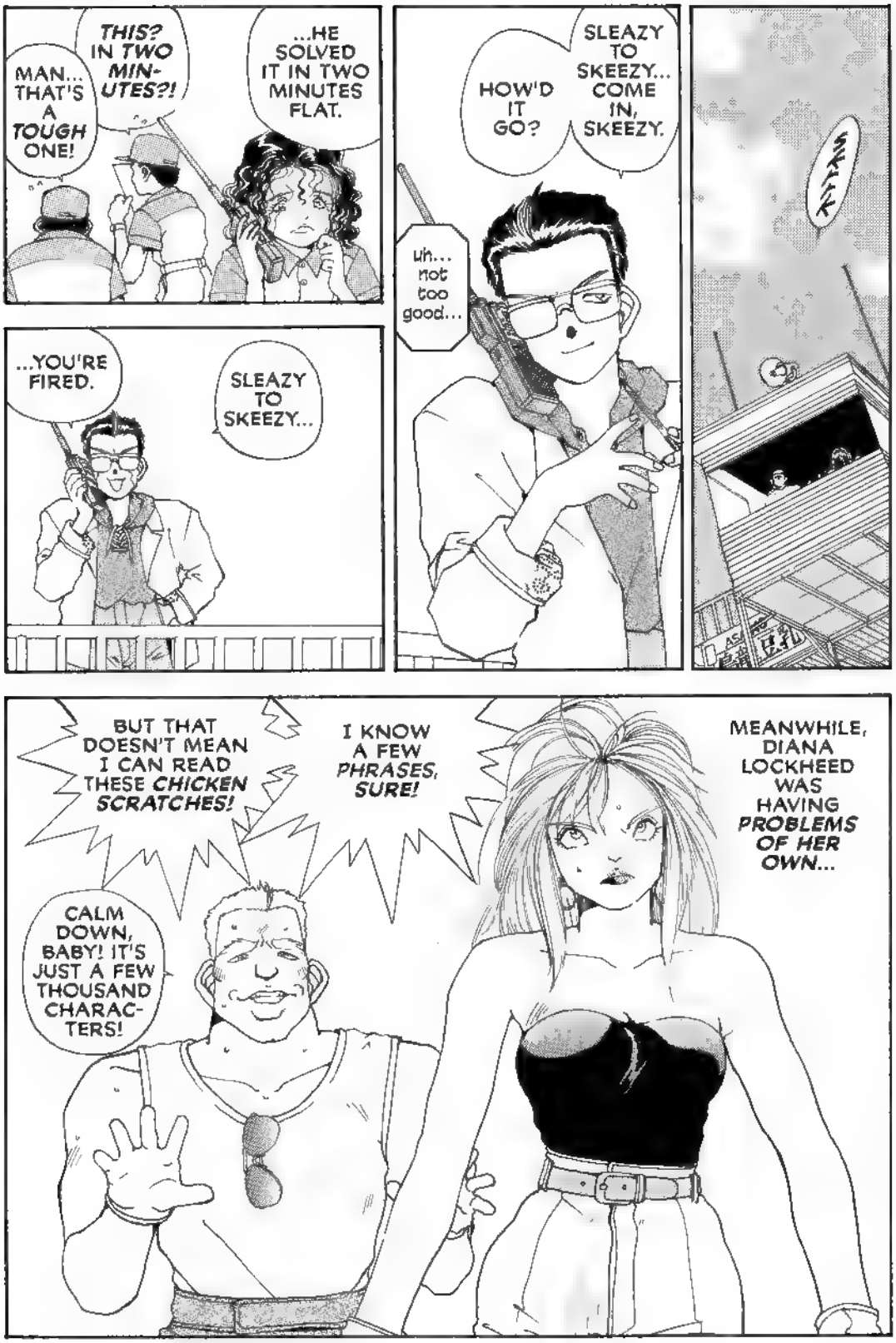
takk takk
...IT'S BOUNCING SO MUCH, I CAN T EVEN READ IT!
40, HUH ...?
REDUCE SPEED TO AVERAGE 40... PASS 50R ON THE LEFT, THEN INCREASE TO 70 KPH!

ARGH! HOW CAN WE *WIN* IF WE CAN'T EVEN TELL *HOW FAST WE'RE GOING?!*
40...? IS THAT 40!!?
GOKITA (2.1km)
TURN RIGHT HERE CROSS THE BRIDGE
THE OBJECT OF THE RACE IS TO WIN, OF COURSE...
DON'T WORRY.
TAKE IT EASY...?
...WHY NOT? PUT IN ONE OF THE CASSETTES!
JUST DON'T GIVE UP, TAKE IT EASY, AND THE REST WILL TAKE CARE OF ITSELF.
...BUT YOU CAN NEVER WIN IF YOU LOSE HEART.

URD'S MAGIC SPY-CAM
A MAN AIN'T NUTHIN' BUT A MAN... grunt...
IT'S TAMIYA... DOING KARA-OKE...
LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE DOING OKAY!
I GUESS I SHOULDN'T HAVE WORRIED.
WHAT ?!
CHECKPOINT NO. 1
WOW! ZERO POINTS!
DRIVE
4WD

AND AFTER WE TRIED SO HARD.
OH, DEAR.
ZERO POINTS !!
OH I SEE!
THE LESS POINTS, THE BETTER!
ZERO POINTS MEANS OUR DEVIATION FROM THE RACE TIME WAS ZERO!
NO, NO, NO.
HECKPOINT NO. 1
TESTING STATION
OF COURSE...
...YOU HAVE TO SOLVE THIS PROBLEM BEFORE YOU CAN GO.
TESTING STATION


PROB-
LEM
?!
[PROBLEM] Read the following description of the synthesis of benzoic acid from toluene, and answer the question below.
CH3
KMnO4
COOH
In a flask with reflux condenser attached, mix 400ml of water, 40g (0.25 Mole) of potassium permanganate, and
WHAT DO THEY THINK WE ARE... COLLEGE STUDENTS ?!
heh-heh-heh... HE SAID TO GIVE YOU THE HARDEST ONE.
THANK GOD... I GOT AN EASY ONE!
List all the prefectures in Japan
Chiba Ibaraq
Saitama Nagano
HEY! NO PEEK-ING!
What is the sum of all integers fro 1 to 100?
...WHAT'D YOU GET...?
AND WHAT DID YOU...


MAN... THAT'S A TOUGH ONE!
THIS? IN TWO MIN-UTES?!
...HE SOLVED IT IN TWO MINUTES FLAT.
HOW'D IT GO?
SLEAZY TO SKEEZY... COME IN, SKEEZY.
uh... not too good...
SKEEZY
...YOU'RE FIRED.
SLEAZY TO SKEEZY...
BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN I CAN READ THESE CHICKEN SCRATCHES!
I KNOW A FEW PHRASES, SURE!
MEANWHILE, DIANA LOCKHEED WAS HAVING PROBLEMS OF HER OWN...
CALM DOWN, BABY! IT'S JUST A FEW THOUSAND CHARAC-TERS!

YOU OKAY, BELL...?
...?!
ALL *RIGHT!* WHAT PERFECT TIMING!
VRRRBBBMM
RUNNING INTO *THOSE* TWO...JUST IN TIME FOR THE *S.S. RACE!*
Bay·Bon
Bay·Bon
SKREE
KON-*NICHI*-WA, KEIICHI!

"SAYO-NARA"... SUCKER !!!
KRABOOM
YOU OKAY? 'CAUSE THIS ONE'S GONNA BE OO-KI!!!
DRIVER DIANA LOCKEE
WELL, YOU SEE...
WHY DID THEY PASS US?
OKAY, AFTER 180R...
THERE'S A DIP...
S.S. STANDS FOR SPECIAL STAGE-- ONE WITH A DESIGNATED TIME OF ZERO-- IN OTHER WORDS, THE LESS TIME YOU TAKE, THE MORE POINTS YOU GET.

OH, NO...
wobble
OH!
I...I MUST HAVE USED TOO MUCH POWER GATING THROUGH THE MIRROR...
haa
BELL! WHAT'S WRONG?
I-I'M FINE. I...I JUST GOT SOME DUST IN MY EYE...
BUT IN FACT, THE CLAIRVOYANCE BELLDANDY HAD BEEN USING TO NAVIGATE...
...HAD RAPIDLY CONSUMED HER REMAINING ENERGY.
TAKE THE NEXT LEFT. OH, KEIICHI...
...IT SAYS IT'S A "WASH-BOARD ROAD." WHAT DOES THAT MEAN...?

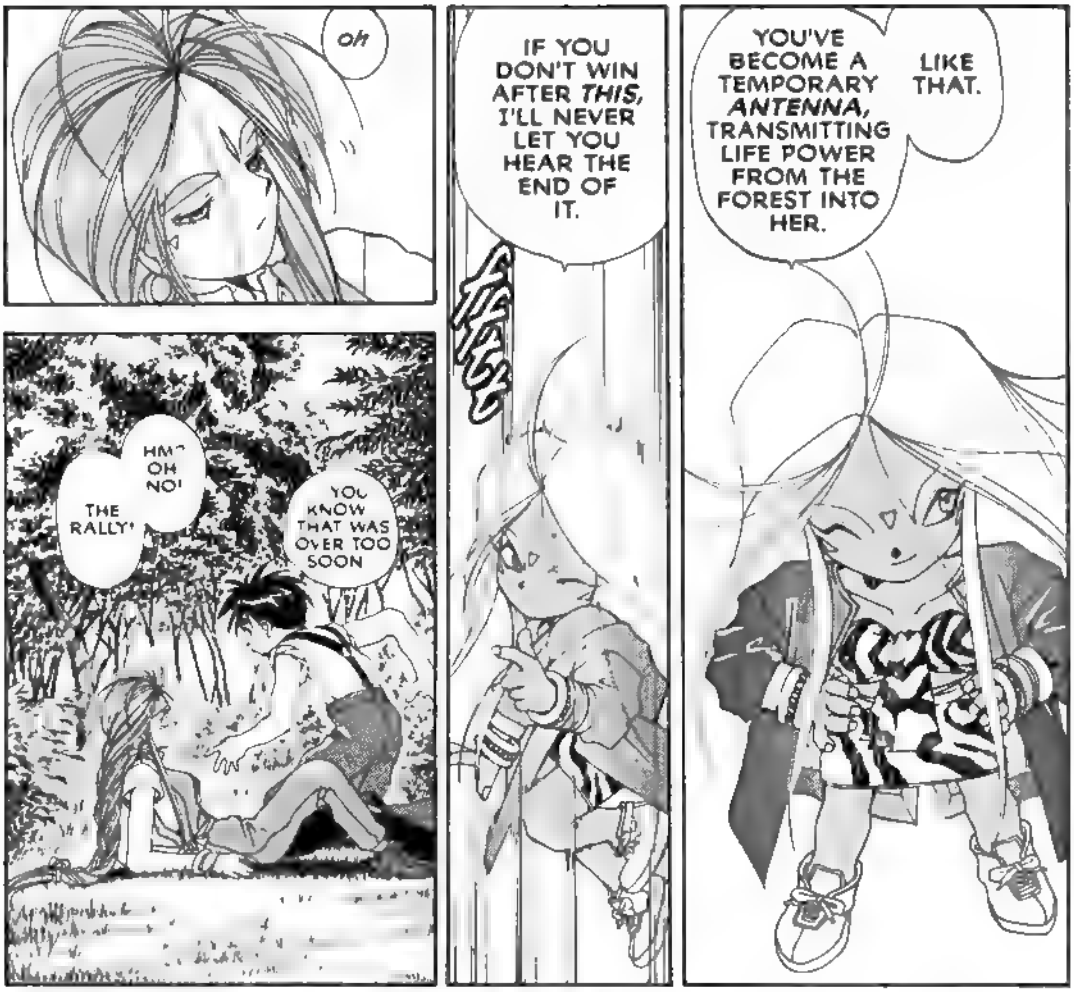
W-W-WELL, I'VE G-G-GOT A G-G-GREAT NAVIGATOR.
O-O-O-NLY 30 S-S-SECONDS B-B-BEHIND US!
N-N-NOT T-T-TOO SHABBY, K-K-KID!
CHECK-POINT NO. 2
wobble
ohh...
.I'VE FINALLY STOPPED VIBRATING ahem THE CROSS-COUNTRY SECTION'S NEXT. THINK THAT TRICYCLE OF YOURS CAN HANDLE IT?
TH-TH-THE...
PLOP!
WELL, I PLAN TO BUY OUR TEAM A LITTLE MORE TIME ON THIS TEST.
CHECKPOINT NO. TESTING STATION

I DO NOT FEEL SO GOOD... bellllllch...
OF COURSE... I AM CARSICK...
urk
urp
THE CURRIED RICE SPEED-EATING CONTEST!
LAST RACE! PREPARE FOR A BUTT-WHUPPIN', BOY!!
SHELBY
HEY!!
BELL-DANDY !!
sweet dreams, baby
rock-a-bye god-dess.
...BUT IN HER WEAK-ENED STATE, SHE WAS NO MATCH FOR THE FIEND!
N-NO...
MUSTN'T...
I MUSTN'T SLEEP...
...IF I FALL ASLEEP, WE'LL...
ORDINARILY BELLDANDY COULD HAVE RESISTED THE SLUMBER DEMON...

WAYS? WAYS? WHAT WAYS?
...HOWEVER, THERE ARE WAYS TO ACCELERATE THE PROCESS...
ONCE SHE GOES INTO SLEEP MODE, SHE WON'T WAKE UP FOR QUITE A WHILE.
GIVE IT UP.
SIGH... CAN'T EVEN LEAVE 'EM ALONE FOR ONE MINUTE!
fffssshh
POP!
WELL, SINCE TIME IMMEMORIAL, THERE'S BEEN ONE WAY TO WAKE A SLEEPING PRINCESS--
--RIGHT?
WITH A KISS FROM A PRINCE !!

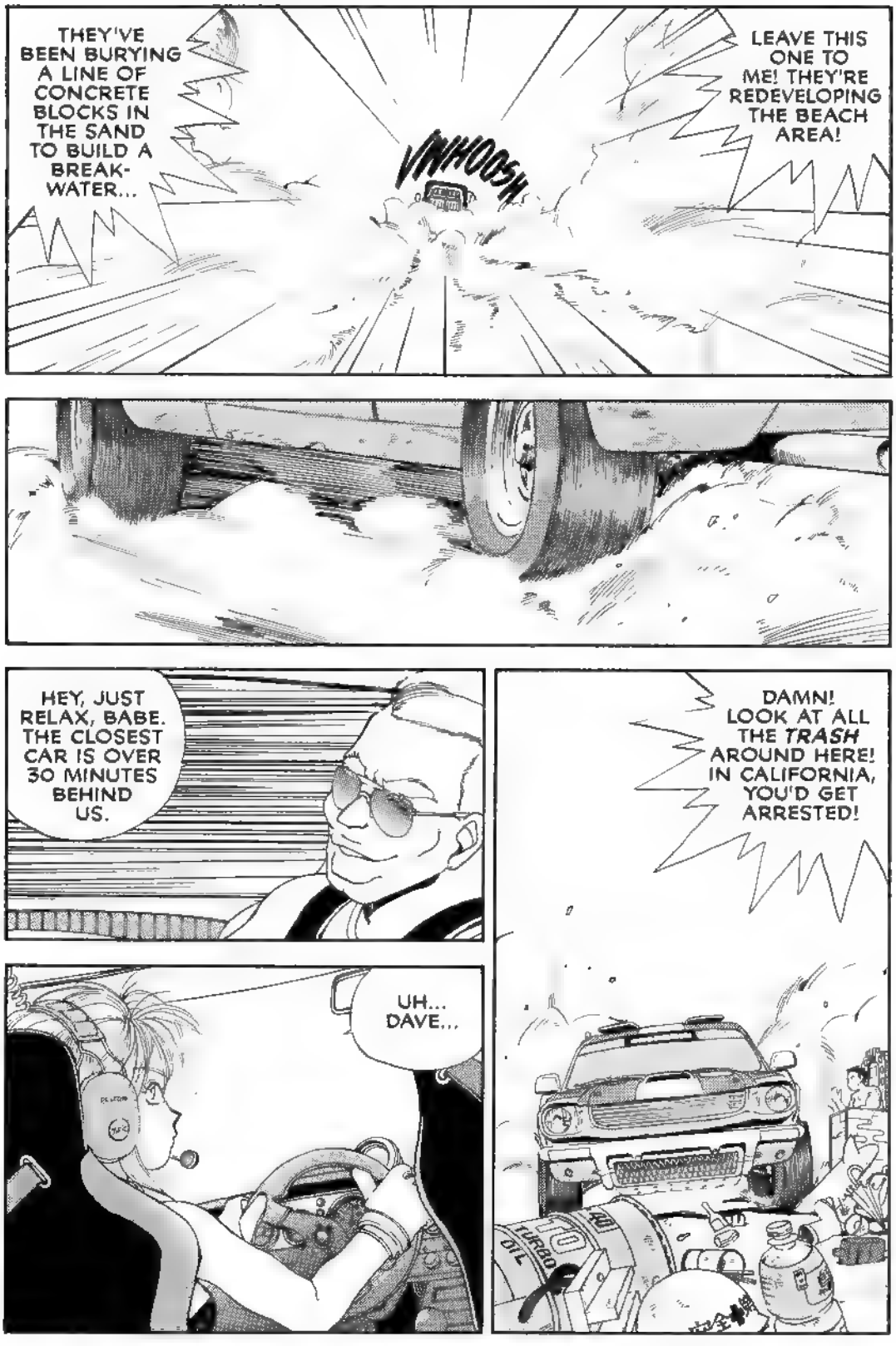
AND NO.
NO.
I'M LIKE A *PRINCE*?! I SHOULD *KISS* HER?!
IS THIS ANOTHER JOKE?!
DO I LOOK LIKE I'M JOKING?
...AND POINT YOUR OTHER TO THE SKY.
NOW PLACE ONE HAND ON HER BREAST...
....
CAN'T YOU TAKE A *JOKE*? STOP SULKING ALREADY.
OKAY. SET HER DOWN HERE.

UM
UM
LIKE
THIS?


oh
IF YOU DON'T WIN AFTER *THIS*, I'LL NEVER LET YOU HEAR THE END OF IT.
YOU'VE BECOME A TEMPORARY *ANTENNA*, TRANSMITTING LIFE POWER FROM THE FOREST INTO HER.
LIKE THAT.
HM? OH NO! THE RALLY!
YOU KNOW THAT WAS OVER TOO SOON
FLEE
BRRR

...URD HELPED?
SO...
SHE'S WATCHING OUT FOR US, KEIICHI.
LET'S WIN FOR HER SAKE, TOO.
MAIN-TAIN SPEED!
10% UPHILL GRADE JUST PAST 45R!
YOU'RE RIGHT! I OWE HER!
CHK
BRAAAAAB

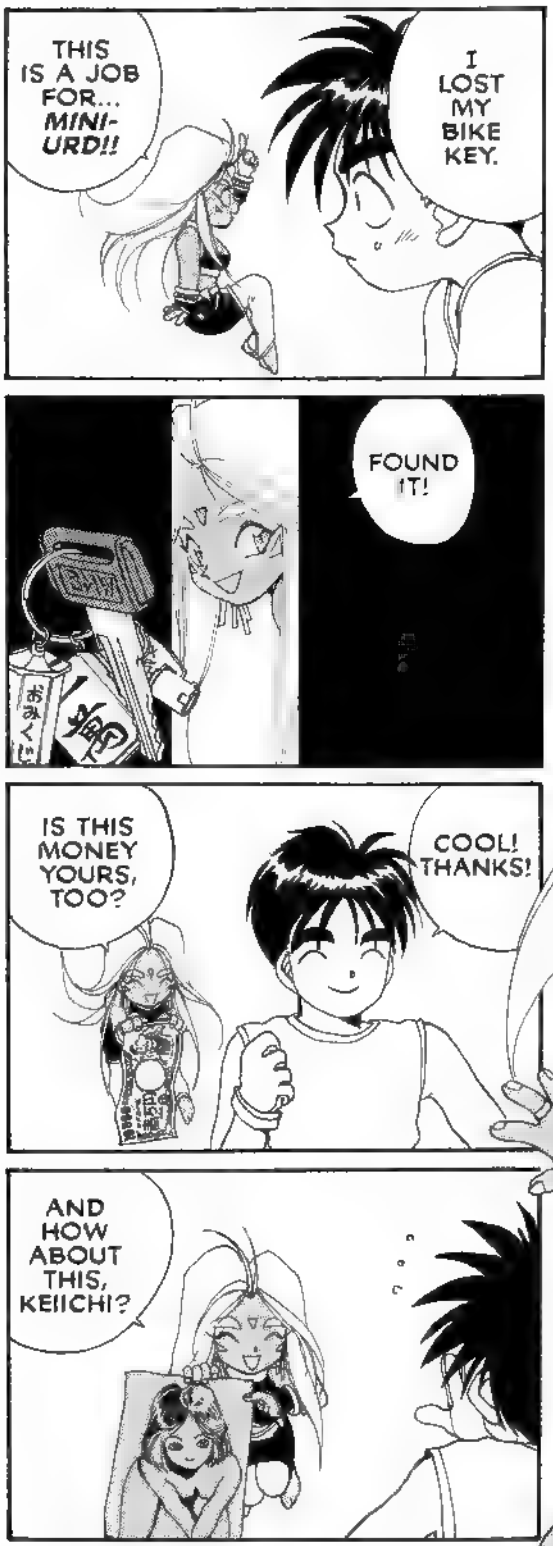
WE'RE ONLY FIVE MINUTES BEHIND!
GREAT!
HOW'D THEY DO IT?!
THEY WERE 30 MINUTES BEHIND AT THE LAST CHECK-POINT!
Golden Hammer Cup
FINAL
THIS IS THE LAST LEG OF THE RALLY...
...THERE'S ONLY THREE POINTS SEPARATING US FROM THE L.A.I.T. TEAM!!
PELTOR
SHE HEARD THE VOICES OF THE MOUNTAIN SPIRITS...
BELL-DANDY UTILIZED ALL OF HER SENSES TO COLLECT DATA...
LISTENED TO THE RUSTLE OF THE LEAVES OF THE FOREST...
SPOKE WITH THE BIRDS...
...AND WITH A CERTAIN GPS SATELLITE.


THEY'VE BEEN BURYING A LINE OF CONCRETE BLOCKS IN THE SAND TO BUILD A BREAK-WATER...
VWHOOSH
LEAVE THIS ONE TO ME! THEY'RE REDEVELOPING THE BEACH AREA!
HEY, JUST RELAX, BABE. THE CLOSEST CAR IS OVER 30 MINUTES BEHIND US.
DAMN! LOOK AT ALL THE *TRASH* AROUND HERE! IN CALIFORNIA, YOU'D GET ARRESTED!
UH... DAVE...
TURBO OIL

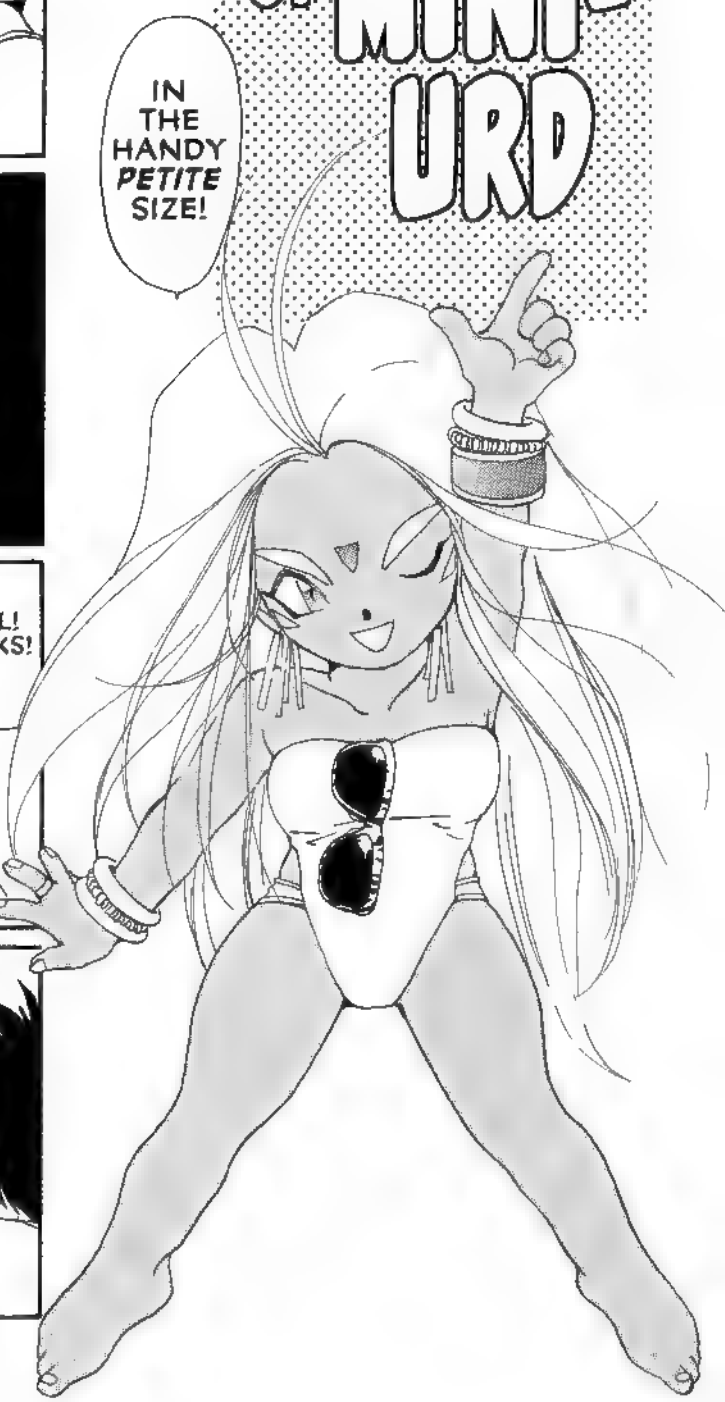
OH!
...SO ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS *FOLLOW THE BLOCKS!*
H-HOW CAN THEY GO SO FAST ON THE *SAND*?!
IT'S *IMPOSSIBLE*... OR AS THEY WOULD SAY HERE, *DAME DESU*!!!
OR, IS THAT *MASAKA*!!!--
YOU KNOW, LIKE ON TV WHEN THE WEAPONS DON'T WORK AGAINST THE ALIENS, THEY SAY "MASAKA!!!"

REAL INSCRU-TABLE!
WELL...
SKSSH
AHA! THERE'S CONCRETE UNDER THE SAND HERE. REAL CLEVER!
...THE PRIZE MONEY FOR THE N.I.T. TEAM...
THE WINNER IS...
...THE NEKOMI TECH MOTOR CLUB!!
YUH DID IT!
...WILL BE WITHHELD TO COVER THE PARTIAL COST OF FOOD AND DRINK CONSUMED BY THE N.I.T. PIT CREW.
"...IT WAS MORE LIKE A REAL MIRACLE..."
DIDN'T YOU ALREADY SPEND 20,000 YEN ON SNACKS?

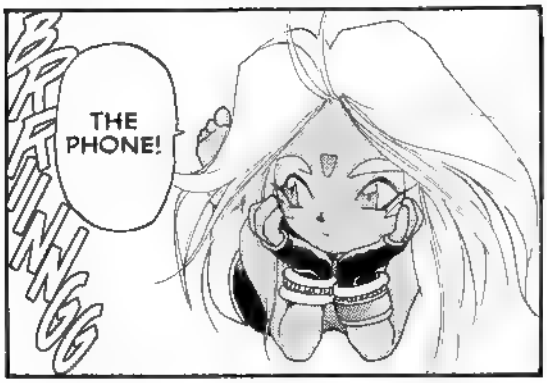
HOUSEHOLD EXPEDITION

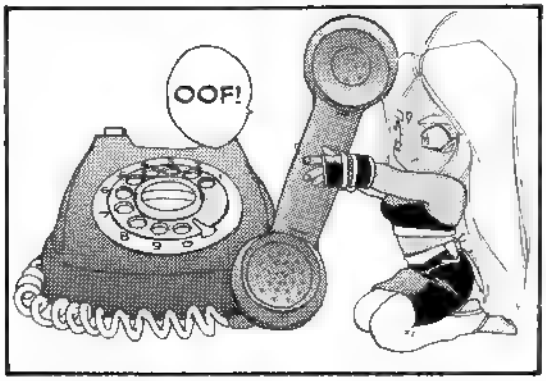


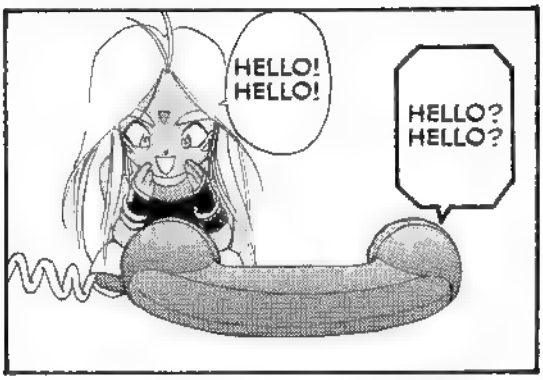
THE ADVENTURES OF MINI-URD

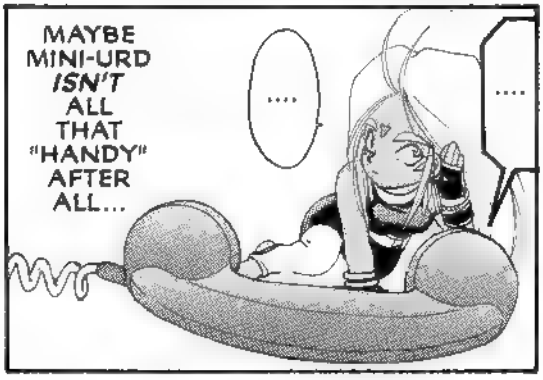


ANSWERING SERVICE

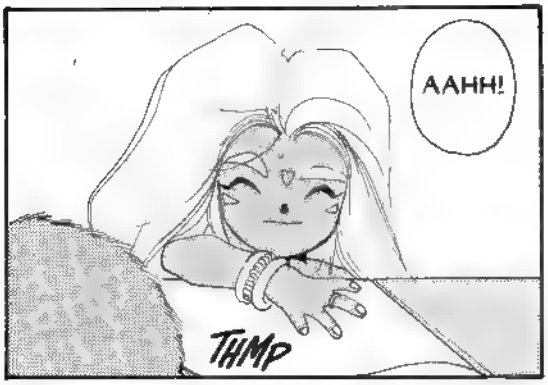


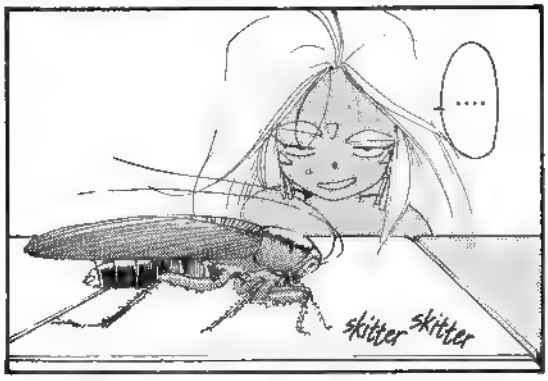






VACATION





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In case you were wondering ^_^, your letters are read in Japan—ten, count them, ten copies of each English volume are sent to the editorial office of Kodansha, the original Japanese publisher. Editors are very important in the life of a manga-ka, for they protect that life from any and all threats to the production of the manga. On those rare occasions when manga artists are able to make time to visit a U.S. fan convention, they often bring their editor in tow—who then follows them around like that Marine who carries the President's nuclear launch codes. And you can bet they'll be working on the next issue late nights in their hotel room. But it's that kind of discipline which is necessary to put out a manga on time every month—let alone every month for the past seventeen years, like *Oh My Goddess!*

I'd like to kick off this volume's installment with a spectacular contribution from a reader, who, like Fujishima-san (and Keiichi), really cares about classic motorbikes.

Dear Mr. Fujishima,

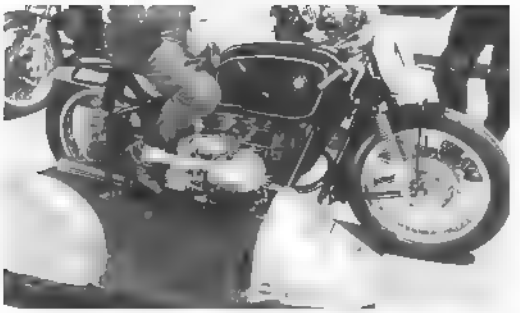
I thought you would appreciate seeing these photos I took of a couple of the motorcycles I've seen you portray in your *Oh My Goddess!* series.

The pictures were taken at Willow Springs Raceway in Rosamond, California, at the annual Corsa Moto Classica sponsored by The Garage Company here in Los Angeles. Part of the festivities involves a demonstration of the many famous race bikes of the past. I've seen the Moto Guzzi V-8, various MV [for *Meccanica Verghera*—it sounds like something out of *FLCL*—ed.] Threes and Fours, a Bennell, and a Gilera Four. They may not be as fast as the latest racewares but they sure are glamorous!

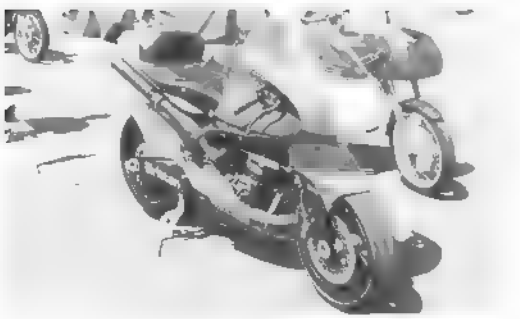
Thank you for your wonderful series on the adventures of Keiichan and his lovely lady Belldandy.

Sincerely,
Albert Sheean
Granada Hills, CA

Keiichi's BMW Rennsport (with a Steib sidecar for Belldandy!). As seen since the very first chapter of *OMG!*. Note that K1's model is a modified Oscar Liebmann Special (for more details on this, see "The Goddess Garage" in *Oh My Goddess!* COLORS).



Close-up on the Rennsport. Mr. Sheean notes it "needs Ceriani forks and a big 4LS Fontana front brake to be similar to Keiichi's." And of course, Keiichi being in Japan, his sidecar is mounted on the other side.



A Britten V1000 motorcycle, the design of the late John Britten of New Zealand, and one of only ten in the world. Mr. Sheean notes you can see a poster of it on Chihiro's shop wall in *Ah! My Goddess* (sic ^_^) *The Movie*. It isn't surprising that Chihiro would feel a spiritual kinship with the innovative, hand-made ethic of the Britten. Sheean notes it was demonstrated "to a very appreciative crowd."

The editor's own twin sister, by the way, is a motorcycle fiend. Come to think of it, so is Studio Proteus's Toren Smith (who produced Dark Horse's original English version of this manga) and the dean of manga scholarship and translation, Fred Schodt. The editor himself will stick to his 1993 Ford Probe. At least in classic otaku style it's named for an anime character—it was christened the M.V. *Noriko Takaya*.

A word about Mr. Schodt, known best to Dark Horse readers as the translator of Shirow Masamune's works—he's compared the job to "deciphering R.E.M. lyrics." If you care about manga, you really owe it to yourself to read his English-language 1983 history and guidebook *Manga! Manga!*—the paperback version is cheap, but try and get the hardback if you can find it. Both contain hundreds of wonderful images from the last century (and farther) of manga, with the high production values you would expect from its publisher, Kodansha, the home of *Oh My Goddess!*

When *Manga! Manga!* first came out, it contained a history that was unknown to most people in the English-speaking world. Today, much of it is still unknown, even by manga fans. As said, the book is beautiful, and Schodt's research is solid—already fluent in Japanese, he knew personally many of the people in the manga industry he spoke to for the book (Osamu Tezuka himself writes the introduction!). But perhaps its greatest quality of all is its independence. In the late '80s, Western publishers discovered manga; in the late '90s, Western academics. *Manga! Manga!* is free of both perspectives; in 1983, there was, practically speaking, no manga yet being published in English (and of course, no Web to learn about them, either).

What this means is that *Manga! Manga!* is an authentic discovery of manga as they existed in Japan, and as the Japanese saw them. Covering the important genres of manga that existed in the early '80s (including ones still underrepresented here, like sports, salaryman, and four-panel gag manga), you'll be interested to see what hasn't changed (*shonen ai* and *rorikon* were both active then, even in top-selling manga magazines) and what has (the *otaku* demographic was still underground and largely un-marketed to). Even Katsuhiro Otomo is caught at the moment right before *AKIRA* made him a superstar; in *Manga! Manga!* you see the early avant-garde work (never

published outside of Japan to this day) that earned him his critical reputation.

Notes for this volume:

12.3: Apparently not; a close examination of his attire in Vols 1 and 2 reveals nothing but T-shirts and pullovers. But wait! In the flashback of Sayoko dissing him freshman year (Vol. 1, 95.4) we see Keiichi in a suit. Maybe he burned it afterward, though. I personally would have burned it before.

12.6: The writing on the easel says on top "(About) the meeting, January 3rd" (probably a reminder note), while on the bottom it says, "I'm returning your tape, sempai." *Sempai* is a respectful term for someone who entered an organization earlier than you. It is often used in an academic context—a freshman referring to an upperclassman, or someone who's been in a campus club longer than you. Watch for Belldandy being called this in 84.5. It is sometimes translated as "Senior."

16.5: Presumably if Keiichi hadn't panicked, he would have realized Bell was more than capable of either making proper clothes (as demonstrated in Vol. 1) or making it *look* like he was wearing proper clothes (as demonstrated in Vol. 2). Of course, each approach would have no doubt carried its own seeds of wackiness therein.

18.1: Her conjured date's Japanese dialogue is written out in *katakana*, implying he is a foreigner—although it sounds a little odd to point that out, as Urd isn't even from this *planet*.

22.3: Urd's rather beautiful in that shot, isn't she? Sometimes the editor is moved to comment.

24.4: He also said "OH!" written out in English at this point (whereas *orientaru majikku* was again written out in katakana), another dead giveaway—foreigners always say "OH!" in manga (see also the comments on this in Vol. 2's "Letters to the Enchantress" article on the transliteration of names in *Oh My Goddess!*).

26.3: The original sound of the phone ringing was *pu-ru-ru-ru*. To this day, I still get creeped out whenever I call someone in Japan and hear the different phone tones—which is unreasonable, because every country has their own. But somehow different phone tones sound more disconcerting than even a whole different language Maybe it's because phone tones are robotic and automatic, whereas language is not. A different tone suddenly reminds you of the "inhuman" element that enables this human communication.

27.2: A rather obvious play on Fujicolor; *poji* is a Japanese loan-word, modified from the English word "positive"; it is the term the Japanese use for a film positive (as opposed to a film negative). Michael Gombos, Japanese Licensing Manager at Dark Horse, was kind enough (as usual) to give me more detail. The top card is a vow to "Enter the Endurance Race and Win!" The card bearing the bird carries the slogan *kotoshi mo yoroshiku ne*, "Let's get along this year," or "Best Wishes for the Coming Year." Gombos remarks, "It's that untranslatable *yoroshiku* thingy. You know the story."

Now, in addition to all that, he vouchsafed the intelligence that these are prepaid postage cards the Japanese post office encourages people to buy and use to send their New Year's greetings. As an incentive, each card bears a lottery number, and the recipient (not the sender) can check to

see if they've won a prize. "Usually," says Gombos, "it's a lot of postage stamps."

27.4: Going from right to left, Gombos notes of the page beneath Keiichi's hand, "this doesn't look like a resolution . . . It's hard to tell what it is, but it reads: *bakuso torakku*, 'a blazing truck.' *Bakuso*, while not in most dictionaries, means something almost like a crazy train—an image of a truck that has gone wild with speed, and is coming at you, going off the rails, as it were; a crazy train. Next to that is written: 16 *ton*, or 16 tons."

(The editor wishes to note at this point that the first time he went to Japan, he was in this little store selling Sanrio goods, when suddenly Tennessee Ernie Ford's rendition of "Sixteen Tons" came playing over the loudspeaker. The somber tone so unbefit the merchandise that I cracked up, drawing stares—and I didn't even know then that Ford was a bombadier in B-29s over Japan before his country career.)

Moving on, Gombos remarks of the lighter grey lettering below the tip of Keiichi's brush, "he's writing, presumably, a note to himself saying *usukatta*, meaning that the ink is too thin—hence the light grey letters. The thing is, though, his kanji are wrong. *Usui* reads: 薄い. This is missing the radical on the top. To give you an example of the radical that's missing, check the 楽 character against 薬.

On the upper left side, the diagonal "newspaper headline" (white lettering in the black box) reads ("and this has to be inferred," notes Gombos, "since it doesn't finish"), *Otegami arigatou*, "thanks for the letter." The "sub-headline" immediately to its left reads, *teepu wo kureta Tomimura Akira-san:* "Akira Tomimura, that gave me the tape." Below and to the left, in the "fine print" of the "article" are written the apparent names: *Kusama, Chiyoko Yokoo, Ika tasuu no: And below, many other—*" It breaks off there. Gombos speculates, "Many other people? Many other incidents? Who knows?" We're not absolutely sure of these kanji name readings, but then again, we're not exactly sure how we could check them either, short of asking Mr. Fujishima whom he meant to reference in this in-joke dating from the administration of the elder Bush.

Finally, the large medium-grey letters at bottom left say most likely *burakku*, which means, well, black. Black what isn't specified

The editor shudders to think that he could have simply asked Susie Lee to white this all out, and nobody would have been the wiser.

33.3: *Sugoroku* means "a pair of sixes," as in dice. It's traditional during New Year's in Japan to play games. Sugoroku originally referred to two traditional types of board game—one like backgammon, and the other like what is known in the United States as Chutes and Ladders (more commonly in the rest of the world, "Snakes and Ladders"). Urd's version is a play on a meaning it developed in Japan after 1988, when the Takara toy corporation (called "Dakara" here) produced a Japanese version of Milton Bradley's The Game of Life, which became a tremendous hit in Japan. It uses no dice, but rather Life's traditional spinning wheel—thus taking Sugoroku one step further from its origins.

34.4: Jan-Paul Rocchina from *Armored Trooper Votoms*, whom the editor is sometimes said to resemble.

38.1: In the original Japanese version of the manga, the money amounts in the game were, in fact, in dollars—so this is not an oversight on the editor's part ^_^ In the first (i.e., flopped) English-language edition of *Oh My Goddess!*, yen references were often

converted into dollars. In this edition, they are left as their original yen amounts—or, in this unusual case, original dollar amounts.

41.1.1: The art of gaffing roulette wheels is described in the wonderful 1961 *Scarne's Complete Guide to Gambling*. In the original James Bond novels by Ian Fleming, 007 would open a book by Scarne whenever he needed to refresh his gambling skills, so you know it comes highly recommended. The new Bond film coming out in November, *Casino Royale*, is said to be a return to the original Fleming style, so you might want to consult it yourself beforehand (there is a rumor, however, that 007 will now be playing Texas Hold 'Em instead of baccarat).

Not unlike *Manga! Manga!*, *Scarne's* is a compendium of forgotten history, much of which is still relevant today (for example, the same schemes for winning at blackjack that get dusted off every few years). Also not unlike Schodt's book, Scarne's has a lot of great photos and illustrations of a bygone age of gambling (there was not a *single* legal state lottery game in the U.S. in 1961; on the other hand, Frank Sinatra was at The Sands, shooting craps in a tuxedo). Author John Scarne spends a fair amount of time discussing how cheating is done, including all the tricks in carnival games such as ring toss, milk bottles, and the shell game. The Japanese angle (you knew there must be one) is that pachinko was inspired by the old carny game of the "drop case"—sort of a folding, suitcase version of *pachinko* that was frequently rigged.

41.1.2: Pierre-Simon Laplace (1749-1827), an astronomer who also did much to advance probability theory, and hence an appropriate sort of demon for Urd's game. Scarne points out that it was aristocratic gamblers who first asked scientists to examine the laws of chance in a systematic manner, and probability theory has since gone on to be of use in many fields of study.

41.3: That doohickey on the far left appears to be a model of the *Voyager* space probe—actually a pair of probes, *Voyager 1* and *2*, which between them visited Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune in the 1970s and '80s. *Voyager 1* is now so far away from Earth that it takes a radio message, travelling at the speed of light, thirteen hours to reach it. Both probes are still transmitting, and scientists hope to use them to learn something about interstellar space. In the unlikely event the probes are ever found by aliens, each one carries a gold-plated record album (remember, this *was* the '70s—but instructions on how to play it are included as pictographs) containing encoded images and sounds of Earth, including music and greetings in fifty-five languages. It's quite possible that some day this record may be all that remains of human civilization. The editor used to live near the Johnson Space Center in Houston as a child—the visitor's center, while shabby then (and garish now) still held romance for its artifacts, including a copy of the golden record, which was played continuously for the tourists.

42.2: Miho Nakayama was, and is, a J-pop singer and actress who had just turned twenty at the time Vol. 3 first came out in Japan. She was known as the "woman in the commercial" for such companies as Kirin Beer and NEC. You may have heard about big-name American actors who wouldn't be caught dead doing commercials in the U.S., going to Japan and doing them for big bucks. In truth, there's simply not as much stigma in general in Japan toward the idea of actors promoting products. It keeps them where they want to be in their career (in the public eye) and it's almost always better paid than movie work. The actor who can

command a $20 or $25 million-dollar fee for a film simply doesn't exist in Japan; first of all, very few films there even have a budget that amount. Ms. Nakayama's website, which is in Japanese, is at www.nakayama-miho.net.

Jazz musician (playing piano and synth) and composer Akiko Yano was born in 1955, and until quite recently was married to Ryuichi Sakamoto, who wrote the key themes to Studio Gainax's (*Evangelion*)1987 debut film, *Royal Space Force*. Yano herself was heavily involved in the soundtrack to Isao Takahata's idiosyncratic (even for him) 1999 anime film *My Neighbor the Yamadas*, which Urian Brown once described as a "ninety-minute Hallmark card" (it's actually 104 minutes, but it moves fast). Ms. Yano, who lives in New York City, has an English-language website at www.akikoyano.com.

The late actor, film director, and screenwriter Juzo Itami, who died under mysterious circumstances in 1997, gained an international reputation for his 1985 "noodle western" *Tampopo*. As Hayao Miyazaki has done thus far with *Princess Mononoke* and *Spirited Away*, he won the Japan Academy Award for Best Picture twice, for *The Funeral* and *A Taxing Woman*. Mr. Itami is forgiven for *A Taxing Woman* beating out *Royal Space Force* in the 1987 *Kinema Jumpo* poll.

43.1: The "OH NO!" here is Kosuke Fujishima's original English sound FX. Why Tamiya bemoans his fate in English is not clear, but it's probably a form of comic emphasis. Almost all Japanese readers would have understood the English expression—see also the commentary in

46.1: The original *onegai* just sounds so much more sensual (if the word is proper in reference to Belldandy) than "please." Although I suppose it too can be given just as whiny an intonation as "pleeeeaaaaaaase?"

48.1: Sometimes I think their relationship has been becoming *less* physical as time goes on.

48.2: I can only *presume* that Sayoko is just trying to show up Belldandy, as usual. *Oh My Goddess!* is often called a classic example of a "harem" anime, where a bunch of cute girls are fighting over a non-threatening male—*Negima* carries this to its absurd extremes, with thirty-one older women in rivalry over a ten-year-old boy—but in *OMG!* they're not so much fighting *over* him as fighting *through* him. If you imagine two rooms: one, locked from the outside, containing Sayoko; the other, locked from the inside, containing her lost status as queen of Nekomi Tech, then Keiichi would be the sheet of drywall between them.

50.3: It was still unusual (even at engineering schools) in March of 1990, when this story appeared in *Afternoon*, for college students to own a personal computer. At the time, Japan also lagged behind the U.S. in general in PC usage—hence being able to use the computer lab's facilities would have been all the more important.

54.1: Saitama is the prefecture directly to the northwest of Tokyo, and is full of what could be described as "bedroom communities" of Tokyo. However, we were unable to determine the origin of this song—we don't know of a town or village in Saitama named "Matsuba," for example. No doubt someone out there can unlock the secrets of this reference, and we would be glad to hear—although try not to say it in a voice like Eddie Deezen's from *WarGames*. Also, I don't know what that giant cat is doing in the background; and, I suspect, neither do you.

66.7: Keiichi's clock uses a shorthand version of the signs that mark the traditional twelve-year Chinese cycle (as in "I was born in the Year of the _____"). Clockwise from the top, it's Rat, Ox, Tiger, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Sheep, Monkey, Rooster, Dog, and Pig.

74.4: Who's that four-eyed fellow just to the right of Bell-chan? Why, it's Studio Gainax's Hideaki Anno, director of an obscure anime named *Neon Genesis Evangelion* That would be five years in his future; at the time this story appeared in *Afternoon* magazine (May 1990), Anno had just begun what was to be Gainax's *first* big TV hit, the thirty-nine-episode TV series *Fushigi no Umi no Nadia*, "Nadia of the Mysterious Seas," available in English from ADV Films under its alternate name *Nadia: Secret of Blue Water*.

The success of *Nadia* (during the early 1990s its eponymous heroine slugged it out constantly in the "favorite character" polls with Sailor Mercury) helps to explain why when *Eva* first came out in 1995 it was considered Gainax's *comeback*. Regrettably, however, Gainax, in the words of *Evangelion* producer Hiroyuki Yamaga, did not make "a red cent" off of *Nadia*, having no percentage of the rights in the series—*Eva* was the first anime that Gainax owned a piece of, and of course, it turned out to be an even bigger hit.

It is not known precisely how Kosuke Fujishima met Hideaki Anno, but it is possible it was through their mutual friend, *Golden Boy* manga-ka Tatsuya Egawa, under whom Fujishima trained (Yoshitoh Asari, who draws the introductory manga to *Oh My Goddess! Colors*, is also friends with both Fujishima and Anno). If the editor recalls correctly, there was some talk about Mr. Fujishima getting involved with Gainax's never-produced sequel to *Royal Space Force*, *Aoki Uru*, doing plane designs. Note, by the way, that Anno immediately lines up to join the club in *75 4*.

78.2: Sayoko calls him by his first name

84.1: Otaki's nickname for Tamiya. Further explained in Vol.4!

120.6: Another demon named after a famous scientist—in this case James Clerk Maxwell, the most important physicist of the nineteenth century. Among many other things, he formulated the basic equations that describe electromagnetism—the theoretical foundation of our modern wired civilization. Fujishima, however, did not come up with the idea of "Maxwell's Demon"—Maxwell himself came up with it, as an exercise in thought. The demon acts as Fujishima describes here. For Maxwell the purpose of the exercise was to question whether entropy must always equalize in two halves of a closed system; Fujishima, however, uses it to provide some doubletalk as to why Belldandy's broom can fly ^_^

133.3: The odd formatting of the dialogue in this sequence is an attempt to reflect such elements in the original, including odd English, use of katakana to spell out Japanese words, and a switch between word balloon text written horzintally (the Japanese default) and horizontally.

144.2 I swear by Go Nagai, the black tights were in the original.

Well, that's all for now. Thank you once again, as always, for reading *Oh My Goddess!* Next volume, thrill to the peroxided evil of everyone's favorite glam-rock demonness, Mara!

—CGH

Creator Kosuke Fujishima in 1990!

His message to fans in the original Japanese *Oh My Goddess!* Vol. 3:

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Kosuke Fujishima's

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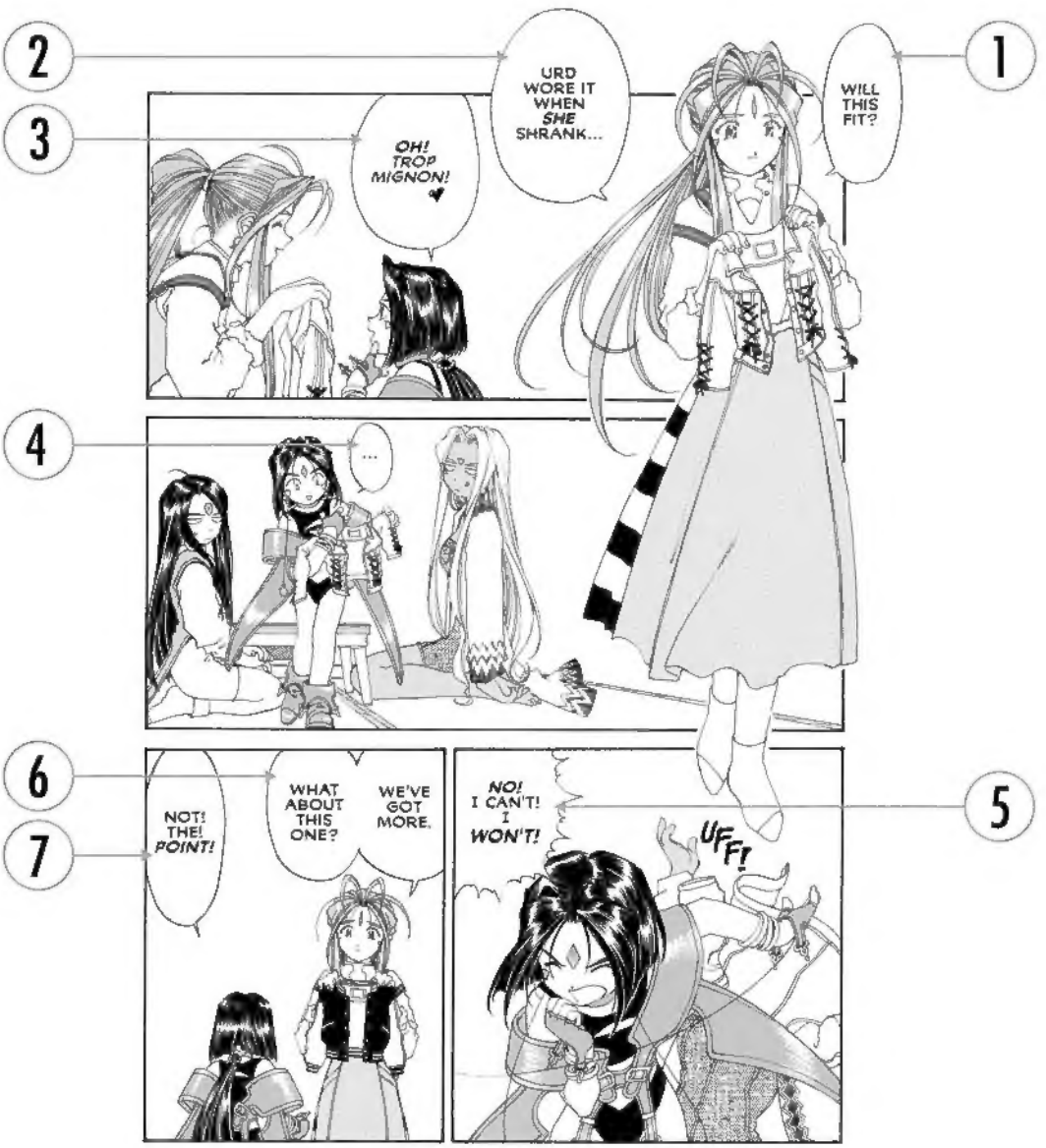


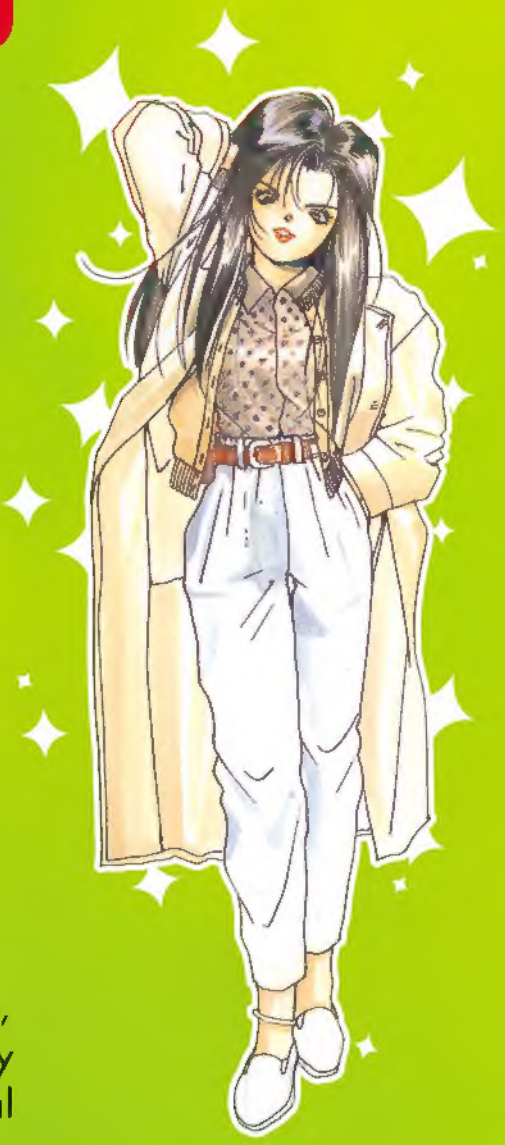
MANGA/HUMOR

Oh My Goddess! 3

ああっ女神さまっ

NO SOONER HAS BIG SISTER

Urd descended, then she tries to alleviate her boredom by shoving Bell and Keiichi together, preferably by wicked spells gone horribly wrong. Of course, good-intentioned sorcery from Belldandy doesn't necessarily lead to better results, as she creates a dim-witted, cross-dressing clone of Keiichi to help him pass an exam! Then, a would-be romantic rival appears—and not from the usual pack of greasy anthropoids Keiichi hangs out with. *This* guy drives a *Ferrari*!



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